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Golborne  
Urban District Council



**Annual Report**

of the

Public Health Department

For the Year 1957.



Golborne  
Urban District Council



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## GOLBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## LIST OF MEMBERS AND OFFICERS, 1957

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Chairman of Council	...	...	Councillor J. Barwell, J.P.
Vice Chairman	...	...	Councillor R. Thwaite
Chairman of Health Committee			Councillor W. Naylor, J.P.

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Members						Ward
Leonard Ball, J.P., C.A.	...	...	...	...		Heath
Ernest Merion Jones, J.P.	...	...	...	...		do
William Naylor, J.P.	...	...	...	...		do
John Armstrong	...	...	...	...		Park
Ernest Richards, J.P.	...	...	...	...		do
Thomas Henry Ralphs	...	...	...	...		do
John Barwell, J.P.	...	...	...	...		St. Thomas's
George Henry Dearden, C.C.	...	...	...	...	do	do
Richard Wilde	...	...	...	...	do	do
Joseph Allen	...	...	...	...		Culcheth
John George Wedel	...	...	...	...		do
Gavin Alexander Cook	...	...	...	...		do
John Kenny	...	...	...	...		Kenyon
Meredith Millington	...	...	...	...		do
Thomas William Jackson, J.P.	...	...	...	...		do
Thomas Bullough	...	...	...	...		Lowton
Peter Harold Johnson	...	...	...	...		do
Reginald Thwaite	...	...	...	...		do

## OFFICERS

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Clerk: Mr. F. Martland

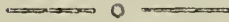
Medical Officer of Health: Dr. A.C. Crawford

Surveyor: Mr. J.B. Hoyle

Treasurer and Chief Rating Officer: Mr. T.J. Robson

Senior Public Health Inspector: Mr. J. Blakeley

GOLBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Medical Officer of Health:

A.C. CRAWFORD, T.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

\*J. BLAKELEY, Cert. S.I.B., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

\*H. LONGWORTH, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk:

Miss M.R. Sumner



\*Qualified Meat and Other Foods Inspectors



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH FOR 1957

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
LOWTON

To the Chairman and  
Members of the Golborne Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I present herewith for your perusal and approval my Annual Report for the year 1957, which follows closely the plan of similar reports for previous years, and includes certain details of the services provided for the individual by the Local Health Authority under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and other enactments, notably the National Assistance Act of 1948. As in previous years, also, the Report is published as one volume integrating the comprehensive work of your Health Department and including therein the Annual Report of your Senior Public Health Inspector.

Scrutiny of the principal vital statistics reveals a rather mixed year, with improved figures in some instances offset by less satisfactory records in others. The crude live birth rate, for instance, based on a total of 385 live births, is 20.3 per 1000 population, a material improvement on last year's rate of 17.5 per 1000, and considerably higher than the mean rate for the last five years - the quinquennial mean - of 16.8 per 1000. It is in fact the highest rate since 1947, when the figure was 23 per 1000, and the actual figure of 385 is the highest number of live births in any year on record for the district. So far as still births are concerned, the number registered was 4, giving a still birth rate of only 10 per 1000 total births - a surprisingly low ratio as compared with the unusually high rate of 50 per 1000 in 1956, and a quinquennial mean rate of 29 per 1000. Yet on the other hand the total number of deaths, 204, giving a crude death rate of 10.8 per 1000 population, is not so satisfactory as last year's record, when the rate was 9.4, or as the quinquennial mean rate of 10.3 for the years 1951-1956 inclusive. Not since 1954 has this general death rate been so high; in that year it was 11.4, and the rates in 1952 and 1951 were 11.1 per 1000 and 12.3 per 1000 respectively. Again, both the neo-natal and the total infant death rates are disappointing; 23 babies out of every 1000 born alive died within the first four



weeks of life, and 34, within the first year of life; last year the comparable incidences were 12 and 22 respectively, and the quinquennial means were 21 and 29 for the previous five year period. As in the case of the general death rate, the year 1954 was also an unsatisfactory year for neo-natal and infant deaths, the figures then being 35 and 38 per 1000 total births respectively. These high mortality rates in infants may, however, be set against the very low still birth rate, as much the same disabilities which give rise to still births also predispose to prematurity and to a high neo-natal death rate in consequence. All 9 infants who died during the first 4 weeks of life were born, and died, in maternity homes or in hospitals, and only 3 of the total infant deaths died at home, one of which was accidental. Clearly when dealing with small actual numbers, chance variations must play a big part, and the pendulum of such variations swings from year to year; but it can be said with confidence that further improvement in the reduction of the hard-core of infant and neo-natal death rates, and of still birth rates now rests on the standard of ante-natal care and supervision provided by family doctors, doctors at ante-natal clinics, obstetric specialists, and of course by midwives. The health of the expectant mother is the crux of this problem.

Consideration of the general causes of death during the year shows the usual familiar pattern. Of the total death roll of 204, in no fewer than 119, or approximately 60%, the primary cause was some disease of the heart or blood vessels; 35 of these were the result of coronary artery disease, 34 of diseases of the cerebral arteries - the "strokes", and 35 of other forms of heart disease, usually of rheumatic origin. In second place as a cause of death comes the cancer group, including the leukaemias, now generally regarded as Cancer of the blood; this malignant group gave rise to 25 deaths, 7 of which were due to stomach Cancer, and 5 to Cancer of the lung or bronchus. Next in order of frequency comes the respiratory group of diseases, which if we include Tuberculosis caused 19 deaths, 4 from Tuberculosis, 5 from Influenza, 5 from Bronchitis, 3 from other forms of respiratory illness and 2 from Pneumonia. "Other defined and ill-defined diseases", a widely heterogeneous group - caused 15 deaths, and deaths from violence in some form 8, of which 4 were due to motor vehicle accidents, 3 to other kinds of accident and 1 to homicide.

Perhaps one of the more interesting features of the vital statistics to which attention may be drawn is that in this district at all events there seems to have been but little increase in cancer mortality during the last 10 or 12 years, and it is, therefore, fair to assume, in cancer incidence. In the current year the cancer deaths were 1.32 per 1000 of the population, and formed 12.25% of the total deaths, and the mean quinquennial figure

for 1953-57 was 1.52 per 1000. In 1946, however, the comparable rates were 1.46 per 1000, and 19% of the total deaths, whilst the quinquennial mean rate for the years 1941-45 was 1.49 per 1000. These almost stable figures are unusual, as in many contiguous areas the cancer mortality rates have increased significantly over the same period of time.

The year has indeed been a very heavy one - in fact a record - in relation to notifiable diseases, 583 notifications having been received during the year. Of these 494 were of Measles - again a record incidence, 45 of Scarlet Fever, 25 of Whooping Cough and 5 of Influenzal or Primary Pneumonia. Not since 1953, when the Measles total was 294, has there been anything like this epidemic numerically, although fortunately the disease was generally very mild and complications infrequent; one death, however, did occur. The districts principally affected were Golborne itself, Culcheth, Lowton and Kenyon.

All the Scarlet Fever cases were of the mild type which has obtained during the past two decades, and the distribution fairly even throughout the area. There were no cases of Diphtheria, Poliomyelitis, Ophthalmia Neonatorum or of the Typhoid (enteric group) fevers, but a single case each of mild Dysentery, Food Poisoning and Puerperal Pyrexia did occur. Of the 9 cases of Tuberculosis, 8 were of the respiratory and 1 of the non-respiratory type.

Vaccination and immunisation measures have continued throughout the year - against Smallpox, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus and Poliomyelitis, protection against which was extended to include additional age groups. Originally limited to children born in the years 1945-54 inclusive, "vaccination" against Poliomyelitis was first made available to children born during the years 1955-56, and later in the year, to children, excluding infants under 1 year of age, up to 14 years of age, to expectant mothers, to general practitioners and their families, and to ambulance staff and their families. Details of the actual inoculations will be found later in the text of this report. Towards the end of the year, the scheme to protect children about to leave school, against Tuberculosis, by the necessary Mantoux testing and B.C.G. vaccination, was initiated in the Golborne area.

The aged persons hostel at Golborne House, which has now been in operation since the autumn of 1956, has now become a fully-fledged establishment functioning, very efficiently and happily, to the full capacity of its 50 places. Welfare activities, both as regards the aged in their own homes, and for handicapped persons, have been considerably enlarged and extended following the appointment of Mr. P.D. Parker as Divisional Welfare Organiser (for



No. 10 Health Division). The Midwifery, Home Nursing, Health Visiting and Home Help services and, of course, the Ambulance Service, have functioned adequately and to capacity, despite certain staffing difficulties. Fuller details of the work done are to be found in the later text.

The principal public health needs of the district are as follows:-- (a) the erection of further Council or other houses for general needs, in excess of, and in addition to, those required for tenancy by persons displaced from "unfit" properties, (b) improvement in the quantity and quality of water supplies in some areas, especially improvements resulting in the elimination of suspended solids (chalk and lime), (c) improved control of refuse tips, using adequate mechanical aids and (d) the clearance of obstructions in, and the purification of, Millingford Brook and Ellam's Brook, which latter is dependent very largely on the completion of the Sankey Valley Sewerage Scheme.

I would in conclusion tender my thanks for, and sincere appreciation of, all the help which I have received during the year, from yourself, Mr. Chairman, and other members of the Public Health Committee, and of the Council, from my colleagues in other departments, particularly those of the Clerk and of the Surveyor and Housing Manager, and, of course, particularly from my friend and colleague, Mr. J. Blakeley, your Senior Public Health Inspector. I should like to include, also, the County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. S.C. Gawne, his Deputy, Dr. T.P. Sewell and the Health Department staff at the County Offices, Preston, for the unfailing and ever willing help and advice received from time to time; nor must I omit Professor Robinson and Dr. Parker, with their respective staffs, who direct the Public Health Laboratories at Liverpool and Manchester respectively, whose counsel is frequently sought on the technical aspects of epidemiology. To each and all I profer my sincere thanks and appreciation.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A.C. CRAWFORD,

Medical Officer of Health

## SECTION A

## GENERAL STATISTICS AND DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

## General Statistics

Area of district in acres	...	...	...	7,548
Population. Census 1931	...	...	...	13,748
Population. Census 1951	...	...	...	16,876
Population. Registrar General's estimate, mid. 1956	...	...	...	18,310
Population. Registrar General's estimate mid. 1957	...	...	...	18,940
Number of inhabited Houses—				
Census 1931	...	...	...	3,140
End of 1957 according to rate books				5,983
Rateable Value, End of 1956	...	...	...	£134,191
Rateable Value, End of 1957	...	...	...	£133,560
Sum represented by a penny rate at end of 1957	...	...	...	£530

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The Golborne Urban District extends from Ashton-in-Makerfield, Haydock and Newton-le-Willows on the west to Irlam Urban District and Rixton-with-Glazebrook in the Warrington Rural Area on the east, a distance of about 7 miles. The southern boundaries are Newton Urban District, and Croft, in the Warrington Rural District, whilst the area is bounded on the North by Abram Urban District and Leigh Borough.

The geological features of the Urban District vary very greatly. Starting from the western end and proceeding eastward, we first find coal fields and red sandstone, with a covering of clay surfaced by a good depth of loamy soil. In the more central parts of the area there is a sandstone base with a decreasing amount of clay and in the eastern portions the sub-soil becomes more sandy and the surface soil much more open, eventually becoming largely moss land.

The surface waters from Lowton and Golborne Wards mainly gravitate to Millingford Brook, which passes through the former Newton lake before entering Sankey Brook, whose ultimate outlet is into the River Mersey at Sankey Bridges.

Lowton St. Mary's, Kenyon and Culcheth are principally drained by streams flowing eastward into the River Glaze, which falls to the Manchester Ship Canal. The height above Ordnance datum varies from 100 to 150 feet.

For the purposes of Local Government the district is divided into six wards, comprising St. Thomas's, Heath and Park Wards in Golborne, and Lowton, Kenyon and Culcheth Wards, each with three representatives, making a total of eighteen Councillors.

The principal industries in the district are Artificial Silk Manufacture, Coal Mining, Engineering, Jam and Sugar Confectionery and Agriculture. There has been full employment in these industries throughout the year.

## VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	188	190	378
Illegitimate	4	3	7
Total	192	193	385

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population

Crude     ...     ...     ...     ...     20.3

Adjusted     ...     ...     ...     ...     18.7

STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	3	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	1	3	4

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - 10

## DEATHS

129 Males     75 Females     Total 204

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population-

Crude     ...     ...     ...     ...     10.8

Adjusted     ...     ...     ...     ...     14.4

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion - Nil

Death rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births - Nil



## INFANT MORTALITY

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	10	3	13
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	10	3	13

## DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

All infants per 1,000 live births ... 34  
 Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... 34  
 Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births Nil

## NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under four weeks of age ... 9  
 Mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... 23

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1957			
ANALYSIS OF INFANTILE MORTALITY			
Cause of Death	No. of Deaths		Age at Death
	M	F	
Acute Bronchitis, The Water-house - Friedrichsen Syndrome ... ..	1	-	9 Months
Asphyxia ... ..	1	-	3 Months
Atelectasis and Congenital Maldevelopment of Respiratory Tract ... ..	1	-	16 Hours
Cerebral Damage, Shock and Anoxia at Birth ... ..	-	1	1 Day
Cerebral Haemorrhage and Prematurity ... ..	1	-	1 Day
Congenital Heart Disease ...	1	-	1 Week
Congenital Polycystic Kidneys and Bilateral Talipes ...	1	-	2 Hours
Congestive Cardiac Failure Anaemia and Rh. Incompatibility ... ..	-	1	4 Hours
Hydrocephalus, Meningococle and Spina Bifida (congenital)	-	1	4 Months
Pneumonia and Congenital Heart Disease ... ..	1	-	2 Months
Prematurity ... ..	1	-	1 Day
Prematurity and Respiratory Failure, Maternal Toxaemia and Accidental Haemorrhage	1	-	14 Hours
Subarachnoid Haemorrhage due to Birth Injury ... ..	1	-	3 Days

## STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1957

## Statistics for 1957 and the Period 1952-6

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Still Births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality		Neo-Natal	
	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 Pop'n	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 Pop'n	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	No. of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	No. of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	No. of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1000 Live Births
Year 1957	385	+20.3	204	*10.8	4	10	Nil	Nil	13	34	9	23
" 1956	321	17.5	172	9.4	17	50	1	2.96	7	22	4	12
" 1955	324	18.2	182	10.2	4	12	1	3.05	7	22	7	22
" 1954	319	18.2	201	11.4	13	39	Nil	Nil	12	38	11	35
" 1953	280	16.3	160	9.3	11	38	Nil	Nil	8	29	5	18
" 1952	243	13.8	196	11.1	2	8	Nil	Nil	8	33	5	21
Ave. 5 yrs. 1952-1956	297	16.8	182	10.3	9	29	0.4	1.20	8	29	6	21

+1956 adjusted birth rate { comparability factor 0.92 } - 18.7 per 1,000

\*1956 adjusted death rate { comparability factor 1.34 } - 14.4 per 1,000

## STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1957

## CAUSES OF DEATH

Causes of Death				M	F	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	3	1	4
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	0	0	0
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	1	0	1
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	0	0	0
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	0	0	0
6.	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	1	0	1
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	0	0	0
8.	Measles	...	...	1	0	1
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases			0	0	0
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	7	0	7
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus			5	0	5
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	0	0	0
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	0	0	0
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms			8	3	11
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	2	0	2
16.	Diabetes	...	...	1	1	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system			18	16	34
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	22	13	35
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...		3	5	8
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	19	16	35
21.	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	2	5	7
22.	Influenza	...	...	4	1	5
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	1	1	2
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	4	1	5
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system			3	0	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...		2	0	2
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea			0	0	0
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	0	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	4	0	4
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...		0	0	0
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	5	1	6
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases			6	9	15
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	4	0	4
34.	All other accidents	...	...	2	1	3
35.	Suicide	...	...	0	0	0
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...		1	0	1
				129	75	204

(Registrar General's Return for District)



Total deaths of persons belonging to the District.

Males 129, Females 75 - Total 204

Compared with 172 in 1956 - An increase of 32

"Inward Transfers" - Males 70, Females 32 - Total 102

"Outward Transfers" - Males 4, Females 5 - Total 9

#### INWARD TRANSFERABLE DEATHS

(Showing place of Death, and numbers concerned)

	M	F
Aitken Street Hospital, Warrington ...	1	0
Astley Hospital ... ..	2	2
Atherleigh Hospital... ..	12	7
Billinge Hospital ... ..	1	-
Broadgreen Hospital... ..	0	1
Christopher Nursing Home, Wigan... ..	3	-
Cottage Hospital, Newton-le-Willows ...	0	1
Cottage Hospital, Pemberton ... ..	0	1
Eccleston Hall Hospital, St. Helens ...	0	1
Firs Maternity Home, Leigh ... ..	1	1
Hollywood Nursing Home, Church Road, Smithills ... ..	0	1
Leigh Infirmary ... ..	12	2
Liverpool Hospital, Manley ... ..	1	0
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan ...	11	0
Salford Royal Hospital ... ..	2	0
Warrington General Hospital ... ..	8	6
Warrington Infirmary ... ..	3	1
Whelley Hospital, Wigan ... ..	6	3
Wrightington Hospital ... ..	1	0
Ambulance on way to Leigh Infirmary ...	1	0
Clifton Drive North, St. Annes ... ..	1	0
13, Elm Avenue, Ashton-in-Makerfield ...	0	1
75, Frog Lane, Wigan ... ..	1	4
Pennington Flash, Leigh ... ..	1	0
Pennington Hall Park, Leigh ... ..	1	0
Warrington Road, Glazebury ... ..	1	0
	<hr/> 70	<hr/> 32

## STATISTICS FOR 1957

Comparative Birth, Death and Mortality Rates, with Analysis  
of Mortality and Morbidity

	Golborne Urban District	Lancashire Boroughs and Urban Districts	England and Wales
	Rates per 1,000 Home Population		
Births-			
Live ... ..	18.7	16.21	16.1
Still ... ..	0.21	0.41	0.37
Deaths-			
All causes ... ..	14.4	14.16	11.5
Tuberculosis (All Forms)	0.21	0.11	0.11
Respiratory... ..	0.21	0.09	0.09
Non-Respiratory ...	0.00	0.02	0.01
Cancer (All Forms) ...	1.32	2.18	2.09
Lung and Bronchus...	0.26	0.45	0.43
Other Cancer ... ..	1.06	1.73	1.67
Maternal Mortality (Total)	+0.00	+0.55	+0.47
Maternal Causes excluding Abortion	+0.00	+0.55	+0.39
Due to Abortion ...	+0.00		+0.08
Infant Mortality ...	* 34	* 25	*23.0
Neo-Natal Mortality	* 23	* 18	*16.5
Case Notifications (Corrected)			
Typhoid Fever... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever ...	0.00	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal Infection	0.00	0.02	0.02
Scarlet Fever... ..	2.37	0.79	0.66
Whooping Cough ... ..	1.32	1.54	1.89
Diphtheria ... ..	0.00	0.00	0.00
Erysipelas ... ..	0.10	0.08	0.08
Measles ... ..	26.08	15.3	14.11
Pneumonia ... ..	0.26	0.69	0.73
Acute Poliomyelitis-			
Paralytic ... ..	0.00	0.04	0.07
Non-Paralytic ... ..	0.00	0.01	0.04
Dysentery ... ..	0.05	1.46	0.64
Food Poisoning ... ..	0.05	1.21	0.20
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	0.05	0.06	0.26
Tuberculosis-			
Respiratory... ..	0.42	0.55	0.65
Meninges and C.N.S.	0.00	0.63	0.01
Other ... ..	0.05		0.08

+Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births

\*Rate per 1,000 live births



STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1957											
Crude Birth, Death and Infant Mortality Rates, 1948-1957											
	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	
Births ... ..	17.0	16.0	16.9	15.4	13.8	16.3	18.2	18.2	17.5	20.3	
Deaths ... ..	10.5	11.3	10.2	12.3	11.1	9.3	11.4	10.2	9.4	20.8	
Infant Mortality	50	43	31	30	33	29	38	22	22	34	

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1957											
Deaths from Cancer, 1953-1957											
	1953		1954		1955		1956		1957		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Golborne ... ..	8	6	11	4	8	3	9	4	7	2	
Lowton ... ..	3	2	5	5	4	4	3	4	12	1	
Kemyon ... ..	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Gulcheth ... ..	4	1	4	4	4	2	1	3	3	-	
Total ... ..	29	1	33	4	25	2	24	3	25	-	
Rate per 1,000 Population ... ..	1.69		1.88		1.40		1.31		1.32		
% of Total Deaths	18.12%		16.41%		13.18%		13.96%		12.25%		

## SECTION B

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

As already indicated in the preface to this report the total of 583 notifications received during the year in respect of all types of notifiable disease, including Tuberculosis, constitutes a new high record for the District. The biggest factor has been the unprecedented incidence of Measles.

As forecast in last year's Report a very heavy outbreak has struck the District - the heaviest within record, due undoubtedly to the very high proportion of children under five years of age who have never suffered previously from this disease and were, therefore, susceptible to attack. More than one half of the victims were "pre-school" children under five, and almost all the remainder, children between the ages of five and ten years. Unfortunately, in the present state of our knowledge there is no known protective procedures as in some of the other infective illnesses of childhood, such as Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus or Poliomyelitis; or at least no known procedures which are practicable. Were supplies of Measles convalescent serum, or gamma globulin, readily available, some effort might be made to minimise the spread of infection in families, but the causative virus is so rapidly infective that it is extremely doubtful even then whether such efforts would be successful in any but a small minority of instances.

The incidence of Whooping Cough, on the other hand, has shown a reduction of more than two-thirds of last year's total (25 to 79) a position which is being paralleled all over the country, and which is, undoubtedly due to the progressive determination amongst parents to secure immunisation against this distressing (and sometimes serious in its outcome) infection of childhood.

Scarlet Fever cases, on the other hand, have almost doubled in comparison to 1956, and are more numerous than for many years past. The reason for this is far from clear, but the majority of cases were in young school children in the five to ten year old group, and the epidemiological evidence shows that school premises, or at all events the congregation of children in school premises, did play a part in the dissemination of this illness.

Tuberculosis

Arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of Tuberculosis are vested in the County Council, Specialist Chest Physicians of the Regional Hospital Boards and the general practitioners. The County Council, on direction of the Minister of Health, are

responsible for both prevention and after care of this condition, but local sanitary authorities are still empowered under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, to take all necessary action to prevent the spread of infection and the Medical Officer of Health still retains specific duties and responsibilities under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952.

The Chest Clinic is situated at Leigh Infirmary, The Avenue, Leigh, and is open on Mondays and Fridays for diagnosis and treatment as follows:-

Old Patients: Mondays, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

New Cases: Fridays, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.

Dr. E.H.W. Deane, Consultant Tuberculosis Officer, and Nurse Evans are in attendance at these sessions.

Nine new cases, eight respiratory and one non-respiratory, were notified, and ten cases, all respiratory, were transferred to the district from other areas during the year. The total number of cases on the Register - still maintained on a voluntary basis - at the end of the year was 99, as against 93 at the end of 1956.

### Disinfection

In most cases of infectious disease, rooms, bedding and other articles are disinfected by Formic Aldehyde fumigation following the removal of the case to hospital, or when the patient is certified free from infection.

Arrangements are in operation with the Borough of Leigh for the use of their steam disinfectors when required for the disinfection of bedding and clothing.





PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1957									
Ward Distribution of Infectious Diseases									
Disease	Ward						Total		
	St. Thomas	Beath	Park	Lowton	Kewton	Culsheth			
Dysentery    ...    ...	-	-	-	1	-	-	1		
Erysipelas    ...    ...	1	-	-	-	-	1	2		
Food Poisoning    ...    ...	1	-	-	-	-	-	1		
Measles    ...    ...	143	70	36	65	33	147	494		
Pneumonia    ...    ...	1	2	1	-	-	1	5		
Puerperal Pyrexia    ...    ...	-	-	-	-	1	-	1		
Scarlet Fever    ...    ...	11	2	2	6	2	22	45		
Whooping Cough    ...    ...	17	1	2	4	-	1	25		
Totals    ...    ...	174	75	41	76	36	172	574		

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

## Comparative Tables of Incidence and Mortality

Disease	1957		1956		1955		1954		1953		1952		Quinquennial Mean 1952-1956 Cases Deaths
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	
Scarlet Fever	45	-	25	-	21	-	16	-	12	-	32	-	21 -
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- -
Measles	494	1	35	-	197	-	78	-	294	1	48	-	130 0.2
Whooping Cough	25	-	27	-	46	-	26	-	79	1	61	-	48 0.2
Enteric Group Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	0.2 -
Dysentery	1	-	12	-	9	-	55	-	-	-	-	-	15 -
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	- -
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	0.8 -
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	0.2 -

(Table continued on Page 23)



(Table continued from Page 22)

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES													
Comparative Tables of Incidence and Mortality													
Disease	1957		1956		1955		1954		1953		1952		Quinquennial Mean 1952-1956
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases Deaths
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	0.6 -
Meningococcal Infection	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	0.6 0.2
Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia	5	2	2	4	4	6	6	4	4	2	5	7	4 4.6
Erysipelas	2	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.6 -
Tuberculosis Respiratory	8	4	6	2	2	-	9	3	7	4	17	4	8 2.6
Tuberculosis Non-Respiratory	1	-	5	-	-	-	4	-	3	-	3	1	3 0.2
Total	583	8	115	6	282	7	194	7	403	8	171	12	232 8.0



PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES, 1957

Incidence and Mortality of Tuberculosis

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
<u>No. of Cases</u> <u>Notified</u>					
Golborne	2	1	-	-	3
Lowton	3	1	-	1	5
Kenyon	-	-	-	-	-
Culcheth	-	1	-	-	1
<u>Deaths</u>					
Golborne	2	1	-	-	3
Lowton	-	-	-	-	-
Kenyon	-	-	-	-	-
Culcheth	1	-	-	-	1
<u>Removed from</u> <u>Register</u>					
Diagnosis not confirmed	-	-	-	-	-
Disease arrest- ed and patient recovered	1	-	4	1	6
Removed to other Districts	1	3	-	-	4
<u>No. of cases</u> <u>on Register</u> <u>at 31st Dec-</u> <u>ember, 1957</u>					
Golborne	11	19	7	11	48
Lowton	14	6	2	6	28
Kenyon	-	-	-	-	-
Culcheth	7	13	2	1	23
Total	32	38	11	18	99

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1957

COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS  
1957 and the period 1952-1956

	No. of Cases Notified		No. of Deaths		No. on Register at end of Year		Total
	Resp.	Non-Resp.	Resp.	Non-Resp.	Resp.	Non-Resp.	
Year 1957	8	1	2	-	70	29	99
" 1956	6	5	2	-	60	33	93
" 1955	2	-	-	-	59	41	100
" 1954	9	4	3	-	53	41	94
" 1953	7	3	4	-	64	46	110
" 1952	17	3	4	1	68	54	122
Average of 5 years 1952-1956	8	3	3	1	61	43	104



## SECTION C

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The water supply of the district is derived from the following sources:-

Golborne - Water supplied in bulk from deep wells situated in Golborne, but controlled by Ince-in-Makerfield U.D.C. and distributed by Golborne U.D.C.

Lowton - Water supplied in bulk by Liverpool Corporation through Abram, and also by Newton-le-Willows U.D.C. Both supplies distributed by Golborne U.D.C.

Kenyon and Culcheth - Water supplied and distributed by Warrington Corporation.

All the houses in the district are now directly connected to public water mains.

The water supply whilst being chemically a hard water in the major portion of the district, is constant and has satisfied the purity standards of the Ministry of Health. Generally, the quantity of water supplied has been satisfactory. A booster scheme to augment supplies in the Lowton area has been of considerable benefit in this respect.

With the introduction of the modified Sodium Silicate process at the water softening plant during the previous year a considerable reduction has been effected in the deposition of lime and carbonate in the water supply to Golborne township.

No action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination or plumbo solvent action.

Fourteen samples of water from the various public supplies were submitted for bacteriological examination and all were found to be satisfactory.

The average daily consumption of water per head during 1957 was 26.88 gallons, exclusive of water used for trade purposes.

Number of houses with piped supplies:- (a) Direct from mains, 5,983; (b) By stand pipe, 0; (c) From private supplies, 0.

### Drainage and Sewerage

With the exception of a number of houses situated at a considerable distance from any public drainage system, all premises in the district are now connected to the Council's sewers. Following the completion of the house connections scheme in the Lowton, Kenyon and Culcheth districts, the conversion of privy and pail closets in these areas has proceeded steadily but it will be some years, at the present rate of progress, before the whole of these insanitary closets are completely eliminated.

### Rivers and Streams

The pollution of the Millingford Brook with sewage from the Ashton-in-Makerfield district still continues to a considerable extent, and necessitates frequent clearing of the sludge to avoid nuisances arising therefrom.

Some pollution of Ellams brook continues, and, as I pointed out in last year's report, the closure of the Haydock East End Sewage works must be one of the principal remedial measures in this respect. Unfortunately, it was not possible during the year to divert the sewage flowing to these works into the Sankey Valley Sewage Scheme but it is expected that this will be possible during the coming year. Meanwhile regular dredging and clearance of the watercourse should be continued.

### Closet Accommodation

Approximate number of the various types of closet accommodation provided in the district is as follows:-

Number of houses on water carriage system	...	...	...	5,906
do. middens	...	...	...	136
do. closets attached to these middens	...	...	...	220
do. dry ashpits (excluding middens)	...	...	...	10
do. trough closets (Schools)	...	...	...	12
do. pail closets	...	...	...	38
do. waste water closets	...	...	...	1
do. moveable ashbins...	...	...	...	6,257
do. fresh water closets	...	...	...	6,144

Eighteen privies and one pail closet were converted to fresh water closets during the year.

### Public Cleansing

The collection and disposal of refuse is carried out by the Local Authority and is under the control of the Senior Public Health Inspector.



Four motor vehicles, all of which are of modern design, are employed on this work, and refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping.

### Schools

The unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation at certain schools has been improved by the conversion of the trough closets to individual fresh water closets; but further conversions and improved closet facilities are still required at one school. A rebuilding scheme is, however, proceeding.

In some schools washing, cloakroom and drying arrangements are still unsatisfactory, and the method of obtaining drinking water, in the majority of schools, is still out of date.

### Housing

As will be seen from the detailed report of the Senior Public Health Inspector, the survey of housing defects has continued throughout the year, details of defective houses being recorded and appropriate action taken to remedy the more serious deficiencies, principally under Public Health Act procedure.

The high cost of building and the reluctance of owners to carry out even essential work, have been the cause of delay in securing necessary repairs to insanitary property.

Some overcrowding still exists and much hardship and ill-health results therefrom. The most frequent cause of overcrowding is married members of families remaining in the home, or returning at a later date to live with parents, owing to the general shortage of houses. Growth of family has been the cause of overcrowding in some cases.

During the year 125 new houses and 22 bungalows were provided by the Council. 93 new private houses and 46 bungalows were also erected and occupied during the year.

Thirty-four houses were demolished during the year, thirty-two of which were the subject of demolition orders and the remaining two were demolished on undertakings given by the owners. One house was also closed during the year.

There are eight Council housing estates and 1,884 houses and bungalows are owned by the Council. These are distributed as follows:-

							<u>Houses</u>	<u>Bungalows</u>
Golborne	-	(a)	St. Thomas's Ward	...	...	...	839	64
		(b)	Heath Ward	...	...	...	128	-
		(c)	Park Ward	...	...	...	92	2
Lowton		...	...	...	...	...	170	14
Culcheth	-	(a)	Culcheth	...	...	...	297	20
		(b)	Glazebury	...	...	...	54	8
Kenyon		...	...	...	...	...	188	8
Total							<u>1,768</u>	<u>116</u>

Ten houses at Lowton Road, Golborne, thirty-four houses and bungalows at Laburnum Road, Lowton, and fifty-eight houses and bungalows at Culcheth were also in course of erection at the end of the year.

## SECTION D

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Meat and Other Foods

One slaughterhouse is in operation in the district and animals slaughtered there provide a portion of the meat supply for the Culcheth and Glazebury districts. The main supply of butchers meat is, however, obtained from outside the district and the quality of all meat sold is generally good.

All food preparation premises, including cafes, restaurants and snackbars, are kept under observation by your Public Health Inspectors. These premises have generally been kept in a clean condition during the year, and there has been a gradual improvement in the standard of hygiene and equipment of these premises.

(b) Milk Supply

The major portion of the work undertaken in this sphere has been concerned with the inspection of dairies and other requirements relating to the distribution of milk together with the sampling of milk supplies for bacteriological examination.

The whole of the milk retailed in the district is "designated" and sold in sealed bottles in accordance with the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) No. 3 Order, 1953. All the supplies have been sampled regularly and sampling of milk at farms prior to pasteurisation has been continued.

A total of 91 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year, and although a small number failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test, it is pleasing to record that none of the samples showed evidence of Tuberculous infection. With 1955 this is only the second year since 1943 when all the samples of milk have been free from Tuberculous infection, a position which emphasises the importance of frequent sampling of milk supplies from all sources.

No cases of other infectious illness have arisen in which milk has been the vehicle of infection and it has been unnecessary to prohibit the sale of any supply. No notices were served under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.



## SECTION E

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

## FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

General bacteriological investigations have been carried out during the year at the Pathological Department, Wigan Infirmary and at the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester, which has dealt with pathological material submitted both by general practitioners and by the Public Health Department - e.g. milk, water and ice-cream samples.

The chemical analysis of water, milk and other foods is carried out at the County Analyst's Laboratory, Preston.

## Examinations Made During 1957

					Positive	Negative	Total
Throat Swabs	...	...	...	...	-	1	1
Faeces	...	...	...	...	1	3	4

Hospital Accommodation

The majority of cases of infectious disease requiring hospital isolation have been admitted to Warrington Isolation Hospital, which is administered by the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board, the body nominally concerned with hospital treatment in this district; but small numbers have on occasion been removed for isolation at Astley Sanatorium.

No hospitals are situated in the Urban District and cases requiring general medical and nursing care are treated at hospitals in Wigan, Leigh or Warrington.

Arrangements are in operation for the admission of maternity cases to the General Hospital, Warrington, Victoria Park Maternity Home, Warrington, Whiston Hospital, The Firs Maternity Home, Leigh, Billinge Infirmary, and St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

Maternity and Nursing Homes

One registered private maternity home is situated in the Urban District - i.e. Five Acres Nursing Home, Kenyon Lane, Lowton. Regular inspection and supervision of this Home is maintained by the Divisional Medical Officer.



## COUNTY COUNCIL SERVICES

### Diphtheria Immunisation

This work has continued throughout the year, being undertaken both by general practitioners in their surgeries and in the homes of patients, also by Assistant Divisional Medical Officers during child welfare centre, and at special immunisation sessions.

Responsibility, of course, devolves on the Local Health Authority - i.e. Lancashire County Council, which has now adopted the policy of providing inoculation antigens to secure immunity not only against Diphtheria, but also against Whooping Cough and against Tetanus (Lock Jaw).

During the year 274 children under fourteen years of age completed a course of primary immunisation, of which 263 were under the age of five years and in addition 132 children received "booster" or reinforcement injections.

The number of children under fifteen years of age in an immunised state at 31st December, 1957 was 3,224.

The locally estimated child population (under 15 years of age) at 1st July, 1957 - 4,694.

Percentage of child population immunised - 67%.

### Immunity against Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Included in the total number of children protected against Diphtheria mentioned above, a total of 17 were given primary protection against Whooping Cough also, and a further 242 against both Whooping Cough and Tetanus.

### Vaccination

During the year only 84 children under 1 year of age were vaccinated. This total shows that only one in three of the children born during 1957 were given protection by vaccination, a situation which is most unsatisfactory. Despite intensive propaganda and personal advice by Health Visitors there seems to be but little improvement in public awareness of the value of this procedure.

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The approved scheme of Poliomyelitis vaccination for priority groups, i.e. children between the ages of one and fourteen years,

expectant mothers, doctors and their families, and ambulance staffs and their families, has continued steadily throughout the year. In all a total of 626 children had each received a course of two injections by the end of the year.

### Maternity and Child Welfare

This work, which comprises essentially such matters as the ante-natal and post-natal care of the expectant mother, health-visiting in the home, and the conduct of Child Welfare Centres, is the responsibility of the County Council, and its organisation and administration is part of the duty of the Divisional Health Committee and its officers. Care of the school-child under the provisions of the Education Act, 1944, is not usually regarded as the "Child Welfare Service", which deals solely with infants and small children under compulsory school age.

Within the Urban District responsibility is undertaken by Dr. J.H.M. Tilley, Assistant Divisional Medical Officer, and by four Health Visitors, Mrs. Thompson, who is concerned mainly with Golborne township, Miss Jenkinson, her colleague in the Golborne and Lowton districts, Miss Alldred in the Culcheth area and Mrs. Griffiths, in the Lowton and Kenyon area. (The care of school children is also part of the duty of these officers, in their capacity of School Nurses).

Details of the Ante-natal Clinics and Child Welfare Centres held in the Urban District are as follows:-

#### (a) Ante-natal Clinics

School Clinic, Derby Road, Golborne  
Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Staff Dr. Tilley, Miss Jenkinson, Mrs. Thompson and  
Midwives concerned with cases.

#### Attendances, etc. during 1957

<u>No. of Sessions</u>	<u>No. of Individual Women Attending during Year</u>	<u>Total Attendances</u>
49	148	828

#### (b) Child Welfare Centres

(i) School Clinic, Derby Road, Golborne  
Thursdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Dr. Tilley, Miss Jenkinson and Mrs. Thompson

- (ii) Paramount Ballroom, Newton Road, Lowton.  
 Alternate Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
 Dr. Ellis and Mrs. Griffiths.
- (iii) Social Centre, Churchill Avenue, Culcheth  
 Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
 Dr. Tilley, Miss Alldred and Mrs. Creighton.

Attendances, etc., during 1957

	No. of Children			Total Attendances		
	Born in 1957	Born in 1956	Born in 1955-52	Under 1 Year	1-2	2-4
Golborne ...	149	108	99	2,497	304	252
Lowton ...	63	42	46	698	163	157
Culcheth ...	61	70	54	978	396	431
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	273	220	199	4,173	863	840

School Health

Schools are visited periodically by Dr. Markham, Dr. Tilley, Miss Jenkinson and Mrs. Thompson, in order to carry out the statutory periodic medical examinations of school children, and also cleanliness inspections.

The new school clinic in Derby Road, Golborne opened last year, has provided a much needed service for school children in the district requiring attention for minor ailments, dental and other defects. Treatment for minor orthopaedic defects has also now been provided and it is hoped soon to be able to provide for specialist ophthalmic services also.

District Nursing Services

Domiciliary nursing services have been rendered during the whole of the year by the staff of district nurses and nurse-midwives administered by No. 10 Health Division, Lancashire County Council.

The ladies concerned are:-

Mrs. E. Monks, 27, Kenyon Lane, Lowton. Tel. No. Leigh 145.  
 Mrs. D. Woodward, 23, Bevin Avenue, Culcheth. Tel. No. Culcheth 2110.  
 Mrs. E.M. Emerson, 46, Henry Street, Leigh. Tel. No. Leigh 620.



### Midwifery Services

The Lancashire County Council is the Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts, and the following is a list of the Midwives and Nurse-Midwives practising in the district:-

Mrs. M. Branch, 54, Bridge Street, Golborne. Tel. No. Golborne 292  
Miss Harrison, 119, Legh Street, Golborne. Tel. No. Golborne 375  
Mrs. D. Woodward, 23, Bevin Avenue, Culcheth. Tel. No. Culcheth 2110

### Mental Health Services

The care and after care of persons suffering from mental defectiveness and mental illness, and investigation of cases in which persons are alleged to be so suffering, is undertaken, under the County Council scheme, by the Duly Authorised Officer. Although supervision of such cases in the home is also undertaken partly by a lady mental health worker, her principal concern is with cases of mental defectiveness.

Duly Authorised Officers: Mr. F. Griffin, Haydock Park Cottage, Newton-le-Willows. Tel. No. Ashton-in-Makerfield 7419, Mr. D. Ryan, 2, Hazelbeech Close, Liverpool, 11. Tel. No. Liverpool Stanley 4521.

Mental Health Visitor: Miss M.V. Phillips, The Old Rectory, Winwick. Tel. No. Warrington 33144.

A duty roster is maintained to cover times other than normal office hours. Should the services of the Duly Authorised Officer be required during these times, application should be made to the Ambulance Station, Tel. No. Newton-le-Willows 2013; the caller will then be advised how to get in touch with the Duly Authorised Officer on duty.

### Home Help Facilities

This permissive service is available under the Lancashire County Council Divisional Health Scheme (No. 10 Health Division), to homes requiring such assistance by reason of the presence in the household of a case of sickness (including mental illness and deficiency) advanced pregnancy, a parturient woman, an aged person or a child under school leaving age.

The service is not a free one; contributions must be made by the applicants towards the cost of provision in accordance with scales adopted by the County Council. Many applicants are, however, old age pensioners in straightened circumstances whose incomes are below the minimum prescribed by the scales, who therefore receive this help free of cost. There were 112 old people who received



help in their homes from 55 part-time home-helps, who assisted a total of 152 people for an average of three hours per day on three days of each week throughout the year.

Home Help Organiser: Miss P. Butler, Divisional Health Offices,  
The Old Rectory, Winwick, who is also assisted by Miss M. Maclean.

## Welfare Services

During the latter half of 1956 Golborne House, a fifty place mixed hostel for aged persons, situated in Derby Road, Golborne, was completed and began to accept residents. This Hostel, which has operated to its full capacity during the year, provides a much needed service and it is hoped that it will become part of the community life of the district.

## Health Education

Health Education, although specifically a responsibility of the County Council under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, yet remains a responsibility of the Local Sanitary Authority under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, and in this work the Public Health Department co-operates with County Divisional Health Staff.

Posters and pamphlets are displayed and distributed at Welfare Centres, Clinics, Factories, Canteens, etc., and film exhibitions are arranged from time to time at such centres.

## Ambulance Facilities

The County Council ambulance service has continued the conveyance of all types of case, i.e. infectious disease, emergency and consultative, within the Urban District boundary to hospitals, etc., elsewhere.

Part of the area, comprising Golborne township and most of the Lowton area, is serviced from Newton-le-Willows ambulance station, whereas cases from Lowton St. Mary's, Culcheth and parts of the district bordering on the inter-divisional boundary are dealt with by the Leigh ambulance station.

This service has functioned in a very efficient and satisfactory manner.

The number of calls made on the ambulance service during the year, now regrouped into the two categories only, "urgent" and "non-urgent", was as follows:-

Urgent Calls	...	...	...	...	...	...	431
Non-urgent Calls	...	...	...	...	...	...	<u>2,306</u>
							2,737

SERVICES CONNECTED WITH DEPRIVED AND NEGLECTED CHILDREN

Children Act, 1948. Adoption Act, 1950

Adoption of Children Act, 1949

Children and Young Persons Act, 1933

The responsibilities devolving on the County Council as a local authority under the former Acts, and delegated to the Children's Committee of the County Council, are carried out on an area basis by Area Children's Committees, the principal executive officers of which are Area Children's Officers, who are assisted by Children's Visitors. The main duties under the Act concern children who are deprived, or children who for one reason or another do not have the advantages of a normal home and family life, and who are cared for and supervised by the Authority, if necessary in Children's Homes, but wherever practicable by foster parents in a family household. The Child Life Protection provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, are, of course, also a responsibility of the Children's Committee and Area Committees, who in addition are concerned very frequently with the care of children and young persons brought before the Courts as requiring care and protection.

The Area Children's Officer concerned with the Golborne Urban District is Miss J.W. Cole, of the No. 11 Area Children's Committee, whose offices are situated at 89/91, Railway Road, Leigh (Telephone: Leigh 1658) with whom a close and cordial working liaison is well established on all matters concerning the health and welfare, not only of children already in care, but of those in whose case it appears likely that they will sooner or later come into the care of the Authority.

During the past few years, however, much closer attention has been paid to the essential needs of children, not only on the material and physical side, but in the matter of their emotional health and stability, which has such an important bearing on their development as healthy, happy and useful members of society; and as the result of psychological studies it is clear, in the great majority of cases, that every effort should be made to keep children within the security of their own family area and environment if at all possible, despite the additional risks to physical health (provided these be not too serious) which may be entailed. The problem of the neglected, ill-treated or unhappy child is, therefore, one with and indivisible from the problem of the inadequate parent and home; and the "problem family" is thus more often than not the first in which is found the neglected, ill-treated or anti-social child.

As the result of a joint advisory circular issued by the Home Office and the Ministries of Health and Education, a Co-

ordinating Committee of Officers was set up in No. 10 Health Division, (with the Divisional Medical Officer as Co-ordinating Officer), for the purpose of holding case-conferences and discussions, in order to decide on the steps to be taken in dealing with every particular case, and the officer most appropriate to deal with it. Such meetings, held regularly at two-monthly intervals, have been attended by Assistant Divisional Medical Officers, the Area Children's Officer and her Visitors, Local Probation Officers, Health Visitors and School Nurses, Public Health Inspectors, Home Help Organisers, Inspectors of the N.S.P.C.C., School Attendance Officers (usually representing the Divisional Education Officer), the Area Officer of the National Assistance Board, and on occasion, the Head Teacher of the school or schools attended by "neglected" children, or the children of problem families.

#### Other Health Authority Services

Information or assistance on any of the services outlined above in this section may be obtained on application to the Divisional Medical Officer, No. 10 Health Division, The Old Rectory, Winwick, near Warrington. Tel. No. Warrington 33144-5.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH  
INSPECTOR - 1957

To the Chairman and Members  
of the Golborne Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Annual Report on the environmental health and cleansing services of the district for the year ending 31st December, 1957.

During the year the work of the Public Health Department has continued, often under some pressure as a result of new legislation, and much time and energy has been expended to improve the general standards in the environmental health field. Day to day attention has been given to the improvement of living conditions, safety of food supplies and other health measures, and although these activities are not spectacular in character, they are highly essential to the community and cover a much wider field than is usually appreciated by the general public.

The period under review formed the second complete year's operation of the five year slum clearance programme and as the new houses became available early in the year it was possible to complete the rehousing of the tenants from the 1956 clearance programme. Demolition Orders were made in respect of thirty-six houses during the year and a number of the tenants of these houses were also rehoused before the end of the year. Thirty-four houses, mainly included in the previous year's programme, were demolished during the year.

In the legislative field the year has seen the introduction of two new Acts of great importance. The Clean Air Act, 1956, with the exception of certain sections, became operative at the commencement of the year and provides new powers for the control of dark smoke and other important matters associated with atmospheric pollution. The second and perhaps more important piece of new legislation being the Rent Act, 1957, which came into operation on 6th July, 1957. The provisions of this Act provided a new basis for determining the rents of dwelling houses and although this new legislation considerably increased the work of the Public Health Department it is hoped that the increased rents now levied on most houses will provide the necessary incentive for landlords to keep the property in better repair than has been the case during the last few years.



As in previous years the repair of defective dwelling houses has been one of the main activities of the department and again there has been some delay in carrying out repairs due to the failure of some owners to comply with notices until legal proceedings are threatened. The provisions of the new Rent Act do not appear to have had any effect so far in speeding up the repair of property and we look forward to an improvement in this respect when the Act becomes fully operative.

Much attention has been given to the inspection and supervision of food premises during the year and steady progress has been made in raising the standard of premises as required by the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, although much of this work is essentially of a long term character.

The public cleansing service has again maintained a high standard of efficiency and a weekly collection of dustbin refuse has been maintained during the major portion of the year. This service has not been achieved without some difficulty owing to the continued growth of the district and to a lesser extent than in previous years, the absence of workmen due to sickness and other causes. The collection of salvage continued its upward trend and the amount of waste paper and cardboard collected and sold once again broke all previous records. Unfortunately, the price of this material fell during the year and the income was somewhat less than the previous year.

In conclusion I wish to accord my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committees for their continued interest in all matters affecting the environmental health services and to the Clerk and other officers for their helpful co-operation and assistance during the year. To the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Crawford, I tender my sincere thanks for his continued help and support in the many aspects of the work, to the Additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. Longworth and the Health Department Clerk, Miss Sumner for their loyal co-operation at all times.

I am,  
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

J. BLAKELEY.

Senior Public Health Inspector and  
Cleansing Superintendent

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

## Summary of Visits and Inspections

Accumulations of Rubbish	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Animals Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	804
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Butchers' Shops...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Caravans ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Closet Conversions	...	...	...	...	...	...	47
Council House Tenancies	...	...	...	...	...	...	105
Dairies and Milkshops...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Dirty and Verminous Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Ditches and Watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dwelling Houses under Public Health Acts; Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	103
Dwelling Houses under Public Health Acts; Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	337
Dwelling Houses under Housing Acts; Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Dwelling Houses under Housing Acts; Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	231
Examination of Drains...	...	...	...	...	...	...	159
Factories...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Food Hygiene Regulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Meat and Food Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	241
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Grocers' Shops ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Hawkers' Storage Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Housing Repairs and Rents Acts; Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Housing Repairs and Rents Acts; Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Ice Cream Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Improvement Grants; Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Improvement Grants; Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Interviews with Owners, Agents and Contractors	...	...	...	...	...	...	104
Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	91
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	152
Offices	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other Food Preparation and Storage Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pathological Specimens Submitted	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pet Animals Act...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Piggeries...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Rag Flock, etc., Act., Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
do do do do Samples Taken	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	73
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Rodent Infestations and Sewer Baiting	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Summary of Visits and Inspections continued

Shops Act Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Street Vendors and Hawkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	174
Smoke Observations...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Total							3,662

Work Carried Out to Remedy Defects Discovered and Dealt with under Public Health Acts, Housing Acts, etc.

Work Carried Out	Public Health Acts	Housing Act	Other Acts & Orders
<b>SANITARY ACCOMMODATION</b>			
Privies converted to water closets	18	-	-
Pail closets converted to water closets	1	-	-
Additional water closets provided	19	-	-
Privy closets abolished ... ..	16	-	-
Pail closets abolished ... ..	7	-	-
New outside water closet buildings provided ... ..	6	-	-
Defective water closet buildings repaired ... ..	6	-	-
Defective water closet supply pipes repaired ... ..	10	-	-
Defective water closet cisterns repaired ... ..	2	-	-
Defective water closet pedestals renewed ... ..	2	-	-
Ashpits abolished ... ..	21	-	-
Ashpits repaired ... ..	1	-	-
<b>DRAINAGE</b>			
Choked drains cleared ... ..	16	-	-
Defective drains repaired ... ..	2	-	-
Drains reconstructed ... ..	1	-	-
Additional drains provided... ..	28	7	-
Additional drain inspection chambers provided ... ..	4	1	-
New drainage systems provided ...	5	-	-
Drains provided with vent shafts...	11	3	-



Work Carried Out	Public Health Acts	Hous- ing Act	Other Acts & Orders
Drainage—continued			
Drain vent shafts repaired ... ..	2	—	—
New eavesgutters provided ... ..	20	2	—
Defective eaves gutters repaired ...	22	—	—
Downspouts repaired or renewed ...	9	2	—
New soil and waste pipes provided ...	23	4	—
New sinks provided ... ..	8	2	—
New sink waste pipes provided... ..	14	3	—
Defective sink waste pipes repaired...	1	—	—
New septic tanks provided ... ..	2	—	—
HOUSING			
New floors provided ... ..	11	11	—
Defective floors repaired ... ..	5	2	—
New skirtings to floors... ..	—	7	—
New window frames provided ... ..	12	22	—
Defective window frames repaired ...	9	—	—
Broken window cords renewed ... ..	7	—	—
Additional windows provided ... ..	—	5	—
Defective wallplaster renewed (rooms)	40	19	—
Defective ceiling plaster renewed (rooms) ... ..	17	17	—
Ceilings raised to bye-law height ...	—	4	—
Dampness. Provision of dampcourse ...	2	14	—
do Cement rendering of walls	2	1	—
New staircases provided... ..	1	1	—
Provision of handrail and repairs to staircases ... ..	2	2	—
Ventilated foodstores provided ...	4	2	—
Permanent ventilation provided to existing foodstore ... ..	4	—	—
Washing boilers repaired or renewed...	4	—	—
New cupboards provided ... ..	7	3	—
New firegrates provided... ..	10	5	—
Defective firegrates repaired... ..	5	—	—
Bedrooms partitioned for separate access	—	6	—
New doors and frames provided... ..	10	16	—
Doors and frames repaired ... ..	8	13	—
External walls repointed or repaired	4	3	—
Defective chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt ... ..	11	2	—
Defective roofs repaired ... ..	33	7	—
Yard paving repaired or renewed ...	2	1	—



Work Carried Out	Public Health Acts	Housing Act	Other Acts & Orders
Housing-continued			
Defective dustbins renewed ... ..	272	-	-
Dirty and verminous houses sprayed, fumigated and cleansed ... ..	11	-	-
Other premises sprayed ... ..	5	-	-
Houses closed ... ..	-	1	-
Houses demolished... ..	-	34	-
Kitchens altered or enlarged ... ..	3	-	-
New bathrooms provided ... ..	2	3	-
Baths provided ... ..	12	4	-
Lavatory basins provided ... ..	11	4	-
Hot water systems installed ... ..	10	4	-
New cooking ranges provided ... ..	1	1	-
Additional electric lights and plugs	5	10	-
Immersion heaters or gas heaters provided	6	1	-
Domestic water supply pipes renewed...	4	-	-
Gas supply pipes repaired ... ..	1	-	-
Coal storage facilities provided ... ..	1	-	-
Other repairs ... ..	4	-	-
OTHER WORKS			
Unsuitable or defective factory closets remedied ... ..	-	-	4
Limewashing of bakehouses ... ..	-	-	2
Totals ... ..	835	249	6

Number of defects or nuisances outstanding at end of 1956 ... ..	217
Number of defects or nuisances arising during 1957 ... ..	1,039
Number of defects or nuisances abated during 1957 ... ..	1,090
Number of defects or nuisances outstanding at end of 1957 ... ..	166
Number of complaints received ... ..	147
Number of informal notices served ... ..	42
Number of statutory notices served... ..	78
Legal proceedings ... ..	2

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936  
Details of Statutory Notices Served

Section of Act	Reason for Notice	No. of Notices Served	No. of Notices Complied with	Outstanding at end of Year
39	Defective drains, sinks, etc.	2	4 (2 from 1956)	-
39	Defective eaves-gutters, downspouts, etc.	28	38 (19 from 1956)	10
45	Defective closets	8	18 (11 from 1956)	8
75	Defective dustbins	7	7 (1 from 1956)	1
93	Other conditions prejudicial to Health	30	37 (19 from 1956)	22
138	Insufficient water supply	3	3	-
		78	107	41

It will be seen from the above table that almost half of the notices complied with (52) were from 1956. Although a certain number of notices must of necessity be carried over from one year to the next, the present favourable position is largely the result of an effort to reduce the time lag between the service of the notice and compliance with its requirements.

Of the seventy-eight statutory notices served during the year, the requirements of thirty-five were carried out without further action, but thirty-six notices on thirty-one properties were not complied with on the expiration of the time allowed and the necessary repairs were carried out after notification that legal proceedings would be instituted. In two cases proceedings were instituted and subsequently withdrawn on the work having been completed prior to the hearing by the Magistrates.

Proceedings were also instituted to obtain a Nuisance Order in respect of one house where the owner had failed to comply with the requirements of a notice and this case was heard at the Magistrate's Court early in 1958.

Two notices requiring repairs to eavesgutters and defective drains were carried out in default by the Surveyor's Department and the requirements of four other notices in connection with the renewal of defective dustbins were also carried out in default.

### Office Routine

This aspect of the work of the Department is rarely mentioned and it is fitting at this juncture to record some indication of the present trend in this respect. During the past few years as a result of legislation and other requirements the number of records to be kept and returns to be made weekly, quarterly and annually has increased considerably and an ever increasing amount of time has to be devoted to this work.

Much of this work on the Public Health side is of a confidential nature and demands the utmost secrecy and fidelity on the part of the staff. All the records were kept up to date during the period under review and the clerical work generally was carried out with a high degree of efficiency.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING

#### Collection and Disposal of Refuse

During the year the refuse collection service was carried on with four vehicles, comprising two Karrier 12 cubic yard side loading vehicles purchased in 1955 and 1956 respectively, and two Karrier 10 cubic yard side loading vehicles obtained in 1948.

With the continuing growth of the district - over 1,800 new dwellings having been erected during the past ten years - and the consequent additional work necessitated by the removal of refuse from new houses and other premises, the majority of which have "long carries" the two larger vehicles were of considerable assistance in maintaining a regular collection of refuse.

A weekly collection of dustbin refuse was maintained during the major portion of the year, but some difficulty was, however, experienced in maintaining this frequency of collection following holidays and other periods when there was a high rate of absence, due to sickness and other causes. Pails were also emptied weekly and ashpits approximately every month.

The trade refuse scheme has been continued during the year under review. Under this scheme the contents of one dustbin are emptied free and a charge of 6d. per bin is made for the removal of other refuse from business premises. Where loads of refuse are removed these are charged at actual cost plus a percentage to cover administrative expenses. During the year 1,136 bins of trade refuse were removed. No loads of trade refuse were removed during this period.



The absence of workmen due to sickness and other causes has again created some difficulty in maintaining a regular refuse service and, more particularly, the proper control of the tips. A total of  $509\frac{1}{2}$  man-days was lost during the year, (compared with 648 days during 1956)  $346\frac{1}{2}$  of these being due to sickness and 163 due to other causes. This represents an average monthly reduction in staff of two men out of a total personnel of 21; the highest number of absences being in October when  $92\frac{1}{2}$  man-days were lost, equivalent to four men during the whole month. In these circumstances it will be appreciated that it was most difficult to keep a regular service in operation at times.

Refuse has been disposed of at four tips, situated at Winwick Lane and Moss Lane, Lowton, Dam Lane, Golborne, and on land adjoining the sewage disposal works at Heyshoot Lane, Glazebury. These tips are adequate for the district, and refuse is disposed of, as far as possible, by means of controlled tipping on the lines laid down by the Ministry of Health. As previously stated the absence of workmen due to sickness and other causes severely restricts this work. The purchase of a small crawler tractor during the latter part of the year and its subsequent adaptation during 1958 for levelling the tipped refuse has assisted in this work.

The total amount of refuse dealt with shows an increase of 635 tons, 2 cwts in comparison with the previous year, this increased tonnage being largely due to the increased number of houses in the district. The total number of dustbins emptied increased by 22,106 over the previous year and the approximate number of dustbins emptied on each collection shows an increase of 323. The number of ashpits and pails emptied is somewhat less than the previous year mainly as a result of conversions carried out. Details of the service are given below.

	1957	1956
Number of loads of refuse removed	3,142	3,198
Approximate weight of refuse removed	10,766 tons 11 cwts	10,131 tons 9 cwts
Total number of dustbins emptied	313,236	291,130
Approximate number of bins emptied on each collection	6,264	5,941
Total number of ashpits emptied	1,443	1,559
Total number of pails emptied	1,045	1,237

The total cost of the refuse collection and disposal service (year ended 31st March, 1958) shows an increase of £1,000. 13. 0. over the previous year due to increased cost of wages and materials,



together with the substantial payment made for the covering of Winwick Lane tip. The cost per head of population has increased by 8d compared with an increase of 1s. 5½d. the previous year and whilst the cost per ton has increased by 7d to £1. 1. 8. this figure is well below the average cost per ton of £1. 5. 3. over the past ten years.

Details of these costings are as follows:-

	1957			1956		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Total Net Cost (Collection and Disposal) ... ..	11,682	12	5	10,681	19	5
Cost per 1,000 of population ... ..	616	15	9½	583	6	10
Cost per head of population ... ..		12	4		11	8
Cost per ton ... ..	1	1	8	1	1	1

One hundred and forty-two defective dustbins were renewed during the year. One hundred and thirty-two of these were supplied by the Health Department on payment being made and four dustbins were supplied in default of owners having failed to comply with notices to renew defective bins.

One hundred and thirty defective dustbins were also renewed at Council houses during the year.

# PUBLIC CLEANSING, 1957

## Monthly Analysis of Refuse Collection and Disposal

Month	GOLBORNE					LOWTON					KENYON AND CULCHETH				
	Loads	Weight T C Q	Emptied			Loads	Weight T C Q	Emptied			Loads	Weight T C Q	Bins	Asphlts	Pails
			Bins	Asphlts	Pails			Bins	Asphlts	Pails					
January	130	519 16 0	13,172	3	43	87	296 0 0	7,334	99	39	72	208 15 0	6,797	55	34
February	94	358 10 0	11,894	-	41	81	281 3 0	6,700	147	36	75	270 1 0	6,870	44	39
March	106	397 0 0	12,550	13	27	82	270 15 0	7,264	135	44	81	287 10 0	7,020	54	40
April	108	393 1 2	12,631	3	37	99	295 19 2	9,482	73	34	66	249 15 0	6,260	32	39
May	105	329 15 0	12,299	-	25	86	316 10 0	8,426	24	44	80	308 0 0	8,012	43	17
June	92	290 4 3	10,810	-	28	81	284 15 1	7,166	74	29	61	238 10 0	5,529	65	5
July	117	335 8 0	11,248	8	25	78	253 12 0	7,148	59	23	65	253 15 0	6,017	27	7
August	132	476 10 0	13,931	4	29	89	284 10 0	7,241	107	30	76	201 5 0	6,486	53	25
September	91	351 10 0	9,571	18	17	64	197 5 0	6,804	26	21	63	170 5 0	5,413	26	31
October	130	515 0 0	13,078	-	28	89	299 2 2	7,234	94	8	75	201 2 2	7,310	7	49
November	99	343 0 0	11,487	-	40	89	236 7 1	7,384	71	22	84	284 2 3	7,720	61	28
December	105	381 5 0	11,685	10	23	59	188 10 0	6,440	8	21	51	198 0 0	6,823	-	17
Totals	1,309	4,691 0 1	144,356	59	363	984	3,204 9 2	88,623	917	351	849	2,871 1 1	80,257	467	331

## SALVAGE

The collection of salvage has continued throughout the year and the demand for waste paper has been fairly constant during the period. The price obtained for mixed waste paper remained at £7. 0. 0. per ton throughout the year, and although the price of container waste was increased to £8. 0. 0. per ton the amount of this type of salvage which could be disposed of was limited and at the end of the year the mills ceased to accept this as a separate grade of salvage largely as a result of the increased use of tarred, laminated and other cardboards, which are unsuitable for repulping.

The total amount of waste paper and cardboard collected (219 tons, 8 cwts.) was the highest tonnage of such material to be disposed of in any year since the inception of the salvage scheme in 1940 and was 1 ton, 13 $\frac{3}{4}$  cwts more than the amount collected during the previous year. The effect of this increased tonnage was more than offset by the lower prices and the income from the sale of this material (£1,559. 7. 3.) was £57. 17. 10. less than the previous year.

Rags and other textiles were in reasonable demand and the amount collected and sold (1 ton, 6 $\frac{3}{4}$  cwts) was similar to that of the previous year. The prices obtained for this type of salvage remained similar to those of the previous two or three years. The recovery of tins from the tips was again very much reduced owing to the high rate of absenteeism among the workmen due to sickness and other causes making this work most difficult. A somewhat larger quantity of light scrap metal was recovered than in previous years and a small quantity of scrap aluminium was also disposed of.

The salvage bonus scheme for the workmen employed on the refuse collection and salvage services was continued during the year and a bonus based on the tonnage of paper collected was distributed at the end of each quarter. The total bonus paid during the year amounted to £577. 8. 0., equivalent to an additional payment of 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ d for each hour worked during the year, which is similar to the bonus paid during the previous year.

Materials Salvaged

				1957			1956		
				Tons	Cwts	Qrs	Tons	Cwts	Qrs
Waste paper	...	...	...	186	7	1	168	18	0
Cardboard	...	...	...	33	0	3	48	16	1
Rags	...	...	...	1	6	3	1	6	0
Tins	...	...	...	3	11	3	3	12	0
Scrap Metal	...	...	...	0	14	0	0	8	0
Scrap Aluminium	...	...	...	0	2	1	0	0	0
				225	2	3	223	0	1



Receipts from Salvage

			1957			1956		
			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	...	...	1,304	10	9	1,213	10	0
Cardboard	...	...	254	16	6	403	15	1½
Rags	...	...	18	14	6	18	4	0
Tins	...	...	10	1	7	3	12	0
Scrap Metal	...	...	2	15	0	2	0	0
Scrap Aluminium	...	...	6	8	6	0	0	0
			<hr/>			<hr/>		
			£1,597	7	10	£1,641	1	1½
			<hr/>			<hr/>		

## HOUSING

The general standard of housing in the district varies somewhat. In the industrial area a considerable number of sub-standard houses of reasonable structure built forty to sixty years ago require improvement and modern amenities. In the other parts of the district housing conditions are fairly good, with the exception of a few isolated groups. There are no back to back houses in the district.

The period under review has formed the second complete year in the implementation of the five year slum clearance programme formulated during the latter part of 1955. Demolition Orders were made during the year in respect of thirty-seven houses occupied by thirty-six families with a total of ninety-eight persons. One house was closed and an undertaking was accepted from the owner of another house to recondition these premises to modern standards. The tenants of twenty-seven houses from the 1956 programme and nine tenants from the 1957 programme, comprising 102 persons, were rehoused during the year. The remaining tenants were rehoused early in 1958.

An appeal against one of the Demolition Orders made in respect of an owner-occupied individual house was heard in the County Court during December, and was allowed, the Demolition Order being subsequently squashed.

During the year thirty-two houses from the 1956 slum clearance programme were demolished together with two houses demolished voluntarily by the owners.

It has been found that an increasing number of the houses included in the five year slum clearance programme have been sold



on becoming vacant and the new owner-occupiers have considered it a good investment to spend what would in normal circumstances be considered an unreasonable amount to bring the property up to modern standards. This procedure may have the effect of prolonging the life of such houses and may be desirable in the case of individual houses, but this practice is likely to lead to complications in many respects at a later date when the houses are to be dealt with, to find that one house of a pair or two or three houses in a row of such property have been improved and the adjoining houses are unfit for habitation.

In the many cases where it has been necessary to serve Statutory Notices to remedy defects in dwelling houses, action has been taken under the Public Health Act, 1936, owing to the present high cost of building repairs and the difficulty of complying with the "reasonable expense" clause of Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936.

Although the position has eased somewhat during the past year, some delay is still experienced in getting repairs carried out promptly owing to the attitude of some owners who ignore all notices and correspondence until legal proceedings are threatened. Further delay is often experienced when work has been given to contractors who fail to carry out repairs in a reasonable time. In all these cases much extra work is created by the necessity for repeated visits to the property together with additional correspondence and telephone calls. To some extent this may be due to builders and property repairers being engaged on new or more remunerative work and who somewhat reluctantly undertake repair work.

Many of these defects occur in houses which cannot be rendered fit at a reasonable expense and the constant attention to this sub-standard property takes more of your Public Health Inspector's time than is often appreciated, coupled with the fact that one is merely touching the fringe of this problem and not getting down to the complete repair and provision of modern amenities in these houses.

During the year eighteen applications in respect of nineteen houses were submitted for improvement grants under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949, as amended by the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954. Sixteen applications covering a similar number of houses were approved and an improvement grant of 50 per cent of the estimated cost of the approved work was made. The total cost of the approved works in these cases was £3,309. 14. 5. and other work to the value of £4,016. 1. 1, consisting largely of repairs and replacements was carried out in these schemes. At the end of the year, six of these schemes had been completed

together with four schemes which were approved in 1956. The remaining two applications were refused.

In addition to the improvement grants outlined above, loans totalling £1,902 were made under Section 4 of the Housing Act, 1949, for the repair and improvement of six houses.

During the year a total of sixteen houses were completely reconditioned to the standard of a satisfactory house, including the ten houses in respect of which an improvement grant was made and one house from the list of property to be demolished during the next five years. All this work was carried out voluntarily by the owners.

### Rent Act, 1957

This Act and the associated Regulations came into force on 6th July, 1957, and marked the beginning of a new phase in the conflict between landlord and tenant. The Act permits the nett rent of dwelling houses, subject to certain conditions, to be raised to a sum equal to twice the gross value and the majority of owners and agents of tenanted houses served the necessary three months notice of intention to increase the rent.

At this stage your Inspectors were inundated with requests from tenants for information regarding the effects of these notices and the Council's decision to make available the necessary forms, including Form G (Notice by Tenant to Landlord of Defects of Repair) was greatly appreciated by the public.

From the commencement of the Act to the end of the year, twenty-seven applications (Form I) for certificates of disrepair were received and in all these cases the Council decided to issue the required certificate. Twenty-two "J" forms (Notice by Local Authority to Landlord of Proposal to issue a Certificate of Disrepair) were served, as a result of which six undertakings (Form K) to carry out the repairs were received from the owners concerned. Eight certificates of disrepair were issued up to the end of the year and no applications for cancellation of certificates of disrepair were received.

There is no doubt that the multiplicity of forms associated with this Act has been somewhat baffling to the general public and being new legislation has considerably increased the work of the Department largely as a result of the lengthy processes involved and the necessity of inspecting the premises concerned at each stage of the procedure.

Details of the issue of certificates of disrepair are given below:-

No. of applications for certificates of disrepair	...	...	...	...	...	27
No. of decisions to issue certificates	...					27
(a) in respect of some but not all defects	...	...	...	...	...	5
(b) in respect of all defects	...	...				22
No. of undertakings accepted from landlords...	...	...	...	...	...	6
No. of undertakings refused	...	...	...			Nil
No. of certificates of disrepair issued	...					8
No. of applications for cancellation of certificates	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Number of New Houses Erected during the Year

	Houses	Bungalows	Flats
(i) By the local authority...	125	22	-
(ii) By other local authorities ... ..	-	-	-
(iii) By other bodies or persons ... ..	93	46	-
Total ... ..	218	68	-

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ... .. 281
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 983
2. Dwelling houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit
  - (a) No. found during year ... .. 39
  - (b) No. (or estimated No.) at end of year ... .. 103
3. No. of dwelling houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit ... 167



2. Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1936 and  
Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)

1. No. of dwelling houses demolished during year
- (a) Unfit houses     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     Nil
- (b) Other houses     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     Nil
2. No. of persons displaced     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     Nil

3. Houses not included in Clearance Areas

1. Houses demolished or closed during year

(a) Housing Act, 1936

- (i) Demolished as a result of  
formal or informal procedure
- (ii) Closed in pursuance of an  
undertaking given by owners
- (iii) Parts of building closed

(b) Housing Act, 1949

- (i) Closed as a result of closing  
orders under Sections 3 (1) and  
3 (2)     ...     ...     ...     ...

(c) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953

- (i) Closed as a result of closing  
orders under Sections 10 (1)  
and 11 (2)     ...     ...     ...

No. of	
Houses	Persons Displaced
34	98
Nil	Nil
1	4
Nil	Nil
Nil	Nil

4. Unfit Houses made Fit and Houses in which  
Defects were Remedied

Repairs during the year	No. of Houses
(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal actions by the local authority under the Housing and Public Health Acts	106
(b) Public Health Acts - action after service of formal notice - Houses in which defects were remedied-	
(i) By owners     ...     ...     ...     ...	39
(ii) By local authority in default of owners     ...     ...     ...     ...	7
(c) Housing Act, 1936 - Action after service of formal notice	
Houses made fit-	
(i) By owners     ...     ...     ...     ...	Nil
(ii) By local authority in default of owners     ...     ...     ...     ...	Nil
(d) Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954	
Houses reconstructed, enlarged or improved     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	Nil

5. Unfit Houses in Temporary Use  
(Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)

(1) No. of houses at end of year retained for temporary accommodation and approved for grant under Section 7     ...     ...     ...	Nil
(2) No. of separate dwellings contained in (1) above     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...	Nil
(3) No. of houses at end of year licensed for temporary accommodation     ...     ...	Nil

6. Housing Act, 1949 - Improvement Grants, etc.

Action during year:-

- (a) Submitted by private individuals to local authority ... ..
- (b) Approved by local authority ... ..
- (c) Submitted by local authority to Ministry
- (d) Finally approved by Ministry ... ..
- (e) Work completed ...
- (f) Additional separate dwellings included in (e) above... ..

Private Bodies or Individuals		Local Authority	
No. of Schemes	No. of Dwelling Houses or Other Buildings Affected	No. of Schemes	No. of Dwelling Houses or Other Buildings Affected
18	19	-	-
16	16	-	-
-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-
10	10	-	-
Nil		Nil	

\*Includes four schemes approved in 1956

Verminous Houses

During the year three Council houses and eight privately owned houses were found to be infested with vermin and the premises, bedding and furniture were treated twice with liquid insecticide containing D.D.T. In all the cases the infestation was of a minor character and the treatment was carried out by the Health Department. The premises were kept under observation after treatment and no evidence of reinfestation was found. Five other premises were also found to be vermin infested and were treated in a similar manner.



## DRAINAGE AND CONVERSIONS

During the year forty-seven visits were made in connection with the conversion of privy and pail closets and one hundred and fifty-nine inspections were made in respect of the examination and repair of drains. In addition to sixteen choked drains being cleared, eight drains were repaired or reconstructed and thirty-five additional drains were provided, largely in connection with the conversion scheme. Fourteen ventilation shafts were provided in connection with these drains. New septic tanks and effluent drains were provided for two houses where improvements had been carried out and a sewer was not available.

Eighteen privies and one pail closet were converted to fresh water closets, and nineteen additional water closets were provided during the year. Sixteen privy closets and seven pail closets attached to houses included in the demolition programme were also demolished.

The number of closet conversions carried out during the year was somewhat better than the previous year (11) but these figures are well below what must be considered as a satisfactory rate of conversions if we are to entirely remove these insanitary and objectionable privy and pail closets within a reasonable time. The majority of the conversions have been carried out in the "owner-occupied" type of house and little progress has been made during the year in the elimination of this type of closet at rented houses.

With a view to providing an incentive to owners to convert privy and pail closets to the water carriage system, the Council have continued the increased conversion grant of £10, but this does not appear to attract some owners and compulsory conversion will be required at an early date to remove the real "hardcore" of this problem.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Full details of all cases are obtained and recorded, and rooms, bedding and other articles are fumigated with Formaldehyde after the patient is removed to hospital or when the patient is certified free from infection.

Total number of cases of infectious diseases investigated	49
Total number of visits made . . . . .	64
Number of houses fumigated . . . . .	46
Number of library books disinfected . . . . .	8
Number of school books disinfected . . . . .	2

## WATER SUPPLY

Number of dwelling houses with piped supply	...	...	5,983
Number of dwelling houses supplied from wells	...	...	0
Number of dwelling houses supplied by stand pipe	...	...	0

All the houses in the district are now supplied from the public mains. With the exception of the Golborne township and part of the Lowton area, the water supply is hard in character. All the supplies have generally been satisfactory in quantity.

Fourteen samples of water from the main public supplies in the district were submitted for bacteriological examination, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat Inspection

One licensed slaughterhouse has been in operation during the year and animals slaughtered at these premises have provided a portion of the meat supply for the Glazebury and Culcheth districts. The main supply of butchers meat is, however, obtained from outside the Urban District and all the meat sold is of good quality.

The inspection of meat has always been given priority and a total of one hundred and ninety-four visits were made to the slaughterhouse during the year for meat inspection purposes. As the number of animals slaughtered at any one time is comparatively small it has been necessary to make three or four and sometimes five visits per week to ensure 100 per cent inspection. All the animals slaughtered were of the best quality.

During the year it has not been necessary to condemn, or accept the surrender of, any fresh meat at butchers shops in the district.

The following table indicates the number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, 1957

## Animals Inspected and Carcasses Condemned

	Cattle -ex- cluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	142	4	-	595	63
Number inspected ...	142	4	-	595	63
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	-	67	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis... ..	4.22	-	-	11.26	4.76
<u>Tuberculosis only-</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	5	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	3.52	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	-	-	-	-	-



Details of Meat Condemned  
1957

TuberculosisOther Diseases

Cattle,  
Excluding Cows

Heads - 2  
Lungs - 3

Livers - 4 (Parasitic)  
Livers - 2 (Abscesses)

Cows

Nil

Nil

Sheep

Plucks - 12 (Parasitic)  
Livers - 53 ( do )  
Lungs - 2 ( do )

Pigs

Lungs - 2 (Pneumonia)  
Livers - 1 (Parasitic)

All condemned meat was stained with green dye and removed to a licensed plant for conversion to fertilisers.

Total weight of meat and offal condemned at slaughterhouses -  
3 Cwts, 1 Qtr, 12 lbs.

Unsound Food

The following table indicates the various tinned and other foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption at shops and warehouses, all of which were voluntarily surrendered by the owners and destroyed.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, 1957					
Food Unfit for Human Consumption					
Nature of Food				Type of Packing	Quantity Condemned
					lbs
Apples	...	...	...	6-lb. tin	6
Apricots	...	...	...	1-lb. tin	1
				1 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lb. tin	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Bacon	...	...	...	-	57 $\frac{1}{2}$
Baked Beans...	...	...	...	8-oz. tins	1
Beef Slice	...	...	...	1-lb. tin	1
Beef Steak Gravy	...	...	...	1-lb. tins	2
Cherries	...	...	...	14-oz. tins	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Coffee	...	...	...	4-oz. pkt.	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Cooked Ham				145 tins	1,759 $\frac{3}{4}$
				(Various Weights)	
				5-lb. slice	5
Corned Beef...	...	...	...	10-oz. tin	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
				12-oz. tins	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
				1-lb. tins	26
				3-lb. tin	3
				4-lb. tins	12
				6-lb. tins	324
Corned Mutton	...	...	...	6-lb. tin	6
Crab Meat				3 $\frac{3}{4}$ -oz. tins	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cream				4-oz. jar	1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Evaporated Milk	...	...	...	6-oz. tins	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
				1-lb. tins	3
Grapefruit	...	...	...	1-lb. tins	2
				1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. tins	21 $\frac{1}{2}$
Lunch Tongue	...	...	...	6-lb. tin	6
Mushroom Soup	...	...	...	1-lb. tin	1
Oranges	...	...	...	11-oz. tins	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Ox Tongue	...	...	...	3-lb. tin	3
				6-lb. tins	132
Peaches	...	...	...	1-lb. tin	1
				1-lb. 13-oz. tin	13 $\frac{3}{4}$
				1-lb. 14-oz. tins	3 $\frac{3}{4}$
				6-lb. tins	18

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, 1957						
Food Unfit for Human Consumption						
Nature of Food				Type of Packing	Quantity Condemned	
					lbs	
Peas	...	...	...	10-oz. tins	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	
				1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. tins	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Pilchards	...	...	...	6-oz. tin	$\frac{1}{2}$	
Pineapple	...	...	...	8-oz. tin	$\frac{1}{2}$	
				1-lb. tins	11	
Pork	...	...	...	12-oz. tin	$\frac{3}{4}$	
				3-lb. 10-oz. tins	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	
				4-lb. tins	52	
				4-lb. 1-oz. tins	12 $\frac{1}{4}$	
				6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. tin	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Pork Loins	...	...	...	1-lb. tin	1	
				3-lb. 10-oz. tin	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Pork Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	8-oz. tin	$\frac{1}{2}$	
				12-oz. tins	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	
				2-lb. tins	8	
				5-lb. 9-oz. tins	11	
Raspberries	...	...	...	14-oz. tins	6 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Salmon	...	...	...	8-oz. tin	$\frac{1}{2}$	
				1-lb. tin	1	
Sardines	...	...	...	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. tin	$\frac{1}{4}$	
Sheep Livers	...	...	...	-	8	
Steak and Kidney Paste				2 $\frac{3}{4}$ -oz. jar	$\frac{1}{4}$	
Stewed Steak	...	...	...	8-oz. tins	7	
				1-lb. tins	6	
Tomatoes	...	...	...	8-oz. tins	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
				9-oz. tins	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	
				14-oz. tins	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	
				2-lb. 3-oz. tins	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Veal				3-lb. tin	3	
				6-lb. tins	30	
				Total	2,602	

Total weight of foodstuffs condemned - 1 ton, 3 Cwts, 0 Qtrs, 26 lbs.

Approximate weight of total quantity of stock or consignment examined from which the above was condemned - 12 Tons, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$  Cwts.

Small quantities of condemned tinned and other foodstuffs are disposed of by burning on an industrial boiler under supervision



or buried on the tip and covered with household refuse. Larger quantities of tinned meats are removed to a licensed plant at Wigan and manufactured into fertilisers, etc.

Forty-seven visits were made in connection with the inspection of food in shops and warehouses during the year.

### Food Premises

The number of food premises, classified according to type of business, in the district at the end of the year was as follows:-

General Grocers and Provision Dealers	...	...	76
Greengrocers and Fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.)	...	...	5
Meat Shops (Butchers, Purveyors of cooked and preserved meat, tripe, etc.)	...	...	16
Bakers and/or Confectioners	...	...	13
Fried Fish Shops...	...	...	11
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream, etc.	...	...	18
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments	...	...	61
Total	...	...	<u>200</u>

Frequent inspection of premises used for the preparation, storage and sale of food has been carried out during the year. A total of 812 visits were made to 316 food premises of all types of which 252 visits were in respect of cafes, bakehouses and other food preparation premises. Much time has been spent in advising all food traders of the dangers arising from the careless handling of food in the course of preparations, storage and sale, and the gradual progress made during the past few years in the improvement of food handling processes has been well maintained during the period under review.

Great stress has been placed on the need of a high standard of personal hygiene for persons employed in these trades, and the majority of food handlers fully appreciate this matter. Most shopkeepers now realise that the general public are becoming "clean food" conscious and only by maintaining a high standard of cleanliness can they hope to retain the goodwill of their customers.

Pamphlets and posters dealing with the various aspects of clean food production were distributed to food traders during the year. Three informal notices were served regarding unsatisfactory cleanliness of premises, all of which were complied with within the time specified.

### Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955

During the year the systematic inspection of all food premises, commenced during the latter part of 1956 under these regulations, has been continued and a total of seventy-nine visits were made. A detailed inspection of fifty-seven food premises was carried out and informal notices outlining the requirements of the regulations were sent to the occupiers thereof.

As outlined in last year's report, many of these regulations have far reaching implications and much consideration had to be given to the interpretation of certain requirements. The provision of fixed washbasins with hot and cold water supply appears to have caused the greatest difficulty and although the necessity of having such equipment is appreciated by food traders generally, the siting of such fittings has been a real problem in some premises, particularly in the case of combined houses and shops, where the shop consists of one room at the front and all the facilities for the drainage of the premises are at the rear.

A number of the food premises inspected during the latter part of 1956 have now been provided with the additional fittings required by the regulations but, unfortunately, it has not been possible to carry out the number of revisits to these premises as had been intended owing to the pressure of work on other duties.

### Registration of Premises

The provisions of Section 14 of the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, were not adopted by the Council and registration of premises and persons continues to be effected under Sections 115 and 116 of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938.

During the year three hawkers of fish, fruit and vegetables from outside the district and seven ice cream premises (prepacked production only) were registered under the 1938 Act. Whilst premises relating to the manufacture and sale of ice cream are referred to later in the report, the number of food preparation premises and hawkers on the register at the end of the year, together with the number of inspections, was as follows:-

	<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>No. of Inspec- tions during Year</u>
Manufacturers of Meat and Fish Products-		
Fish Friers     ...     ...	11	14
Butchers...     ...     ...	8	24

	<u>No. of Premises</u>	<u>No. of Inspec- tions during Year</u>
Grocers ... ..	5	79
Confectioners ... ..	11	13
Ice Cream Premises ...	50	64
Hawkers of Meat Products, Fish, Fruit and Vegetables resident in the district	8	18
Hawkers Storage Premises in the district ... ..	7	13
Hawkers from other districts	32	-
Totals ... ..	<u>132</u>	<u>225</u>

#### Food Byelaws

Model byelaws relating to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and the Sale of Food in the Open Air are in operation in the district. In two cases warnings were given to shopkeepers regarding unprotected foodstuffs displayed so as to be liable to contamination, but generally there has been a gradual improvement in the standard of food handling since the byelaws were put into operation, and this is largely a question of education of all concerned in the food trades in the necessity for hygienic food handling practices.

#### Bakehouses

Number of bakehouses on register ... ..	12
Number of inspections made during the year ... ..	21

All these premises have been kept in a clean condition, but in two cases it was necessary to draw attention to limewashing not carried out within the requisite period and this work was done immediately on notice being given. All the premises are in good structural condition.

During the year the use of one bakehouse was discontinued and the premises were used for other purposes.

#### MILK SUPPLY

The Urban District is included in the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) No. 3 Order and dairymen are required to supply only designated milk in sealed bottles and containers.



With all milk produced at farms in the district now being sent to pasteurisation depots outside the area, the number of sources of supply of designated milk coming into the area is accordingly restricted.

In addition to dairies situated on farm premises there is only one dairy registered in the district and these premises are used for the storage of bottled milk from the wholesale supplier pending delivery by retail, which is often only a period of a few hours.

Fifty-two visits were made to premises in connection with matters relative to the Milk and Dairies Regulations during the year.

Seven new distributors were registered during the year and the total number of registered milk distributors is seventy-six, these persons operating from the following premises:-

(a) Dairies in the district	...	...	...	...	1
(b) Dairy farms in the district	...	...	...	...	10
(c) Shops in the district other than dairies	...	...	...	...	47
(d) Premises outside the district	...	...	...	...	18

#### Milk (Special Designations) Orders

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, control the licensing and distribution of designated milk, the former regulation relating to Tuberculin Tested and the latter Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk.

Nine new licences were granted under these Regulations, chiefly in connection with the sale of Sterilised Milk, and the total number of licences issued during the year was as follows:-

Tuberculin Tested - Dealers	...	...	...	...	10
Supplementary	...	...	...	...	14
Pasteurised - Dealers	...	...	...	...	12
Supplementary	...	...	...	...	17
Sterilised - Dealers	...	...	...	...	54
Supplementary	...	...	...	...	15

#### Milk Sampling

During the year all the milk produced at farms in the district and milk supplies from outside areas have been sampled regularly. These samples have been submitted for the Tuberculosis Test and Methylene Blue Test, and in the case of heat treated milk, the

Phosphatase Test for Pasteurised and the Turbidity Test for Sterilised milk.

A total of 91 samples was taken during the year and the results of these are as follows:-

<u>Type of Milk</u>	<u>Methylene Blue</u> <u>Test</u>		<u>Tuberculosis</u> <u>Test</u>		<u>Turbidity</u> <u>Test</u>
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Nega- tive	Posi- tive	Satisfactory
Tuberculin Tested	26	3	29	-	-
Ungraded	21	1	20	-	-
T.T. Pasteurised	1	-	1	-	-
Pasteurised	23	-	23	-	-
Sterilised	-	-	-	-	16

The twenty-four samples of Pasteurised milk also passed the Phosphatase Test. Two samples of Tuberculin Tested milk submitted for the biological test were rendered void as a result of the guinea pigs dying before the end of the test.

It is pleasing to record the absence of Tuberculous infection in the samples of milk submitted for bacteriological examination during the year. Since 1943 this is only the second year when all the samples have been free from such infection, the other clear year being 1955, which serves to emphasise the importance of continuing the sampling of milk from all sources.

Details of four unsatisfactory samples submitted for the Methylene Blue Test were referred to the Milk Production Officer of the Lancashire Agricultural Executive Committee for investigation and remedy.

The following table shows the results of milk samples taken, together with comparative figures for the previous five years.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, 1957.

## Examination of Milk Samples, 1952-1956 &amp; 1957.

Nature of Test Carried Out														
Type of Milk	Year	No. of Samples taken	Methylene Blue		Phosphatase		Turbidity		Tuberculosis					
			Satis.	Un-Satis.	Satis.	Un-Satis.	Satis.	Un-Satis.	Negative	Positive	Spoilt			
Tuberculin Tested	1957	29	26	3	-	-	-	-	-	29	-	-	-	-
	1956	28	23	5	-	-	-	-	-	27	-	-	1	-
	1955	37	32	5	-	-	-	-	-	35	-	-	2	-
	1954	20	16	4	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	-
	1953	15	10	5	-	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-
	1952	10	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	-
Ungraded	1957	22	21	1	-	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	2	-
	1956	32	29	3	-	-	-	-	-	30	2	-	-	-
	1955	23	22	1	-	-	-	-	-	22	-	-	1	-
	1954	34	32	2	-	-	-	-	-	28	3	-	3	-
	1953	46	43	3	-	-	-	-	-	39	7	-	-	-
	1952	42	38	4	-	-	-	-	-	42	-	-	-	-
Pasteurised	1957	24	24	-	24	-	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	-
	1956	25	25	-	25	-	-	-	-	24	-	-	1	-
	1955	24	22+	-	24	-	-	-	-	23	-	-	1	-
	1954	30	28+	-	30	-	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	-
	1953	19	18*	-	19	-	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	-
	1952	19	19	-	18	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
Sterilised	1957	16	-	-	-	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1956	13	-	-	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1955	9	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1954	15	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1953	21	-	-	-	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1952	9	-	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\*Test on one sample void - Atmospheric shade temperature over 65° F.

+Test on two samples void - do do do



## ICE CREAM

There is no heat treated ice cream manufactured in the district. One cold mix manufacturer discontinued the process and since September, 1957, all the ice cream sold in the district has been prepacked, except loose ice cream sold from vehicles from outside the district.

As in previous years a number of applications were received from grocers and occupiers of small mixed shops for registration of premises for the sale of ice cream under the provisions of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938, and five premises were registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream only.

The total number of vendors of ice cream is fifty, all of which now sell pre-packed ice cream only. In addition six manufacturers from outside the district operate mobile vehicles in the Golborne Urban District and retail loose ice cream.

These premises and vehicles are inspected regularly and sixty-four visits were made for this purpose. The requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations relating to the storage of ice cream have been well observed by all the purveyors.

Some difficulty has been experienced during the year in obtaining samples of ice cream from mobile vehicles from outside districts who often operate at irregular hours and prevent the submission of a sample to the Public Health Laboratory within the requisite period. In these cases the assistance of the officer of the local authority concerned was obtained.

During the year thirty-eight samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination. Of these samples, one was of loose ice cream and was classified as Grade 1. The remaining thirty-seven samples were classified as thirty-one Grade 1, two Grade 2, three Grade 3 and one Grade 4. The Grade 3 and Grade 4 samples could not be accepted as satisfactory and representations were made to the manufacturers concerned, all of which were outside the district, and the Public Health Departments of the areas concerned were also notified. Subsequent "follow up" samples were found to be satisfactory.

The grading of ice cream samples over the past five years is as follows:-

	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>
Grade 1	32	30	25	26	37
" 2	2	5	8	2	3
" 3	3	-	4	4	-
" 4	1	-	1	-	1
	<u>38</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>41</u>

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

The County Council is the authority responsible for carrying out the provisions of the above Act relating to food sampling, and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for particulars of the following samples which have been taken in the district and submitted for analysis:-

A total of ninety-two samples was obtained, sixty-four being milk and the remaining twenty-eight consisted of the following:-

1 Baking Powder	1 Condensed Milk
1 Blancmange Powder	1 Dessicated Coconut
1 Barley	4 Dried Fruit
3 Canned Meat	4 Margarine
1 Canned Boneless Turkey	1 Oatmeal
1 Cake and Pudding Mix	1 Olive Oil
1 Caraway Seeds	4 Sauce
1 Coffee	2 Tapioca

The samples were submitted for analysis to the County Analyst, and, with the exception of the following, all were reported to be genuine.

<u>Type of Food</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Milk	Fat 2.95% deficient 1.6% fat	Vendor notified
Boneless Turkey (canned)	Contained 14% excess moisture. It should, therefore, be labelled "Boneless Turkey with Stock"	Packers communicated with

## SHOPS ACT, 1950

Under this Act the Golborne Urban District is not a "local authority" for the purposes of the Act, having a population of less than 20,000 and responsibility is placed on the County Council, except for Section 38 which deals with sanitary conveniences, ventilation and temperature of shops, and is the direct responsibility of the sanitary authority.

Generally, the shops in the district have maintained a good standard during the year. A gradual improvement in the condition of shop premises was noted and the replacement of old shop fittings with modern display shelves, cabinets, impervious counter tops and other equipment is gradually taking place, particularly in food shops. In connection with the sanitary provisions of the Shops Act, it was found necessary to draw attention to defective sanitary conveniences at two shops and defective heating arrangements in another case. All these defects were remedied on notice being given to the occupiers of the premises concerned. These defects are exclusive of those contraventions found in food shops which have been reported in the appropriate section.

In connection with the Shops Act duties carried out on behalf of the County Council relating to the working hours, weekly half holidays and intervals for meals and rest of all young persons employed in shops and other provisions relating to the health and comfort of all shop workers, it is a matter of regret that no inspections could be carried out during the year under this heading owing to the increased amount of work placed on the Department as a result of new legislation and other commitments.

## LICENSED PREMISES

The work of improving the sanitary accommodation and refuse storage arrangements at licensed premises has continued during the year but it has not been possible to carry out inspections of licensed premises in connection with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations and although it is known that some premises have been brought up to standard there is still much work to do in this field.

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

This Act governs the conditions under which rag flock is manufactured and stored, and controls the use of this and other filling materials for upholstery and other purposes. Standards of cleanliness of filling materials are prescribed by Regulation and certain premises require to be registered by the local authority.



One factory in the district carrying on upholstery work is registered by the Council. There are no premises in the district where rag flock is manufactured. Four visits were made to the registered premises and three samples of filling materials were submitted for analysis, all of which satisfied the tests laid down by the Regulations.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933  
SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1954

These Acts prohibit the slaughtering and stunning of animals except by licensed slaughtermen, and require all animals to be stunned by means of a mechanically operated instrument prior to slaughter.

Licences granted to slaughtermen under these Acts are valid for a maximum period of one year. Five licences were renewed during the year and these specified the types of animal their holders were permitted to slaughter and the type of stunning instrument to be used. No new licences were issued and one existing licence was not renewed during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, places responsibilities on Local Authorities with regard to destruction of rats and mice. Under this Act the Local Authority is responsible for ensuring that all land and premises, including farms, is kept free from rodent infestation and once again it is pleasing to record the co-operation given by the officers of the Lancashire Agricultural Executive Committee in dealing with the latter type of premises.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Infestation Division, the annual 10 per cent test baiting of the sewerage system in Golborne (outer district) Lowton, Kenyon and Culcheth was again negative and no further sewer treatment was carried out in these areas. When the usual baiting of all the sewer manholes in the Golborne central area was carried out later in the year it was found that for the first time since the treatment of sewers was commenced many years ago this area was free from infestation and an exemption was granted in respect of the further treatment of this area for the remainder of the year.

Whilst the Council have continued to give a free service for the treatment of rodent infestations found on dwelling houses, there appears to be a belief that the Council are bound to carry out this work, consequently householders do very little to help

themselves and in some cases encourage infestation by keeping poultry and other animals in yards and other unsuitable places. Although the Council carry out this work and render every assistance in these cases, it should be emphasised that the statutory responsibility of keeping premises free from rodent infestation is placed on the occupier.

In the case of rodent infestations on business premises, a charge is made for treatment based on the actual cost of labour, bait and poisons, plus an administrative percentage. In all cases the work has been carried out voluntarily by arrangement with the occupiers and it was not found necessary to serve any Statutory Notices under the Act.

The number of properties found to be infested during the year was ninety-five compared with ninety-four in the previous year, and the total number of treatments including re-treatments, carried out during the year was 105. 354 properties were inspected for rodent control purposes and the total number of visits made to these premises was 658, exclusive of subsequent visits made for the treatment of infested properties. Details of this work are shown in the following table.

Details of Surface Infestations

	Type of Property			
	Non-Agricultural			Agri-cultural
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All Other Premises	
(a) Number of properties in district ...	22	5,983	546	71
(b) Number of properties inspected ...	22	205	75	52
(c) Total inspections carried out, inc. re-inspections ...	37	451	179	91
(d) Number of properties which were found to be infested by				
Rats - Major ...	3	-	-	1
Minor ...	4	58	6	-
Mice - Major ...	-	-	-	-
Minor ...	-	13	10	-
(e) Number of infested properties treated	7	71	16	1
(f) Total treatments carried out, inc. re-treatments ...	12	74	18	1
(g) Number of block control schemes carried out	-	-	-	-

Details of Rat Destruction in Sewers

District	Treatment	Manholes Baited	Manholes Infested	No. Infested last Year
Golborne (central)	No. 1	28	1	2
Golborne ( " )	No. 2	28	Nil	1
Golborne (outer district)	10% Test Bait	15	Nil	Nil
Lowton, Kenyon and Culcheth	10% Test Bait	32	Nil	Nil

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

During the year two applications were received for licences to place caravans on land in the district for permanent habitation. In one case a licence was granted until the end of the year and the remaining application was refused. The licences of five existing caravans were renewed for a further period of one year and three of these caravans were removed during the latter part of the year. With one caravan licensed in November, 1956, to the end of the period under review the number of licensed caravans in use for habitation at the end of the year was four.

In all cases the caravans licensed have been of the modern trailer caravan type stationed on separate sites, and sanitary accommodation, readily accessible water supply and adequate drainage and paving around the caravan and approach have been provided in accordance with conditions imposed on each licence.

Restrictions are also imposed on the erection of other buildings and structures adjoining or adjacent to caravans.

Action was also taken during the year to remove two travelling vans camped on unsuitable sites.

Forty-four visits were made in connection with this work during the year.

There are no licensed camping sites in the district.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This act provides for a system of licensing and inspection of all premises used for the sale of pets, including a private dwelling if used for this purpose.



The provisions of the Act require that accommodation used for keeping pets shall be suitable as regards size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness, that there is an adequate supply of suitable food and drink and that the animals shall not be sold at too early an age.

Three existing licences, one authorising the use of premises for the sale of birds and two for the breeding and sale of rabbits, were renewed for a further year. No new licences were issued and one existing licence was not renewed.

#### ANIMAL DESTRUCTION CENTRE

The Council have provided an Animal Destruction Centre at the rear of the Council Offices, Lowton for the destruction of unwanted domestic animals. A modern dual purpose electrocution chamber is in operation and for a nominal charge cats and dogs are instantaneously and painlessly destroyed, a service which continues to be greatly appreciated by the public. During the year sixty-seven dogs and twenty-four cats have been destroyed. The carcasses are removed and properly disposed of.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1907 - SECTION 86

##### Dealers in Old Metal and Marine Store Dealers

The provisions of the above Section which relate to the registration of dealers in old metal and marine store dealers are in operation in the district and three persons and their premises are registered for this purpose. No new applications for registration were made during the year.

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The number of factories on the register at the end of the year is as follows:-

Rayon Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	2
Preserves and Sugar Confectionery	...	...				5
Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	8
Boot and Shoe Repairs	...	...	...	...		2
Motor Vehicle Repairs	...	...	...	...		4
Printers...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Joiners and Builders...	...	...	...	...		6

Bakers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	12
Corn Milling	...	...	...	...	2
Tyre Retreading and Rubber Reclamation	...	...	...	...	2
Electrical Repairs and Fitments	...	...	...	...	1
Cinema Furnisher	...	...	...	...	1
Hospital Laundry	...	...	...	...	1
Electricity Transforming	...	...	...	...	1
Building Operations	...	...	...	...	14
Other Works	...	...	...	...	7
Total					69

The requirements of the Factories Act appear to be well observed and in every case defects were remedied without statutory action. Some difficulty was, however, experienced in the administration of Section 107 regarding the provision of sanitary accommodation on numerous small building sites in the district.

The following tables give details of factory inspections carried out during the year under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and defects dealt with.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA, 1957.

## Factories Act, 1937.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
Factories with mechanical power.	54	82	5	-
Factories without mechanical power.	1	1	-	-
Other premises.	14	24	4	-
Total	69	107	9	-

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA, 1957.

## Factories Act, 1937.

## Defects Found

Particulars. (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspec- tor (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspec- tor (5)	No. of Offences in respect of which Prosecu- tions were Instituted. (6)
Want of cleanliness	2	2	-	-	-
Inadequate venti- lation ... ..	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding ...	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drain- age of floors ...	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temper- ature ... ..	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	1	-	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	4	4	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	-	-	1	-
Other Offences	-	-	-	-	-
Totals ... ..	8	6	-	2	-



## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

During the year sixteen observations were taken of smoke emission from factory chimneys in the district.

Bye-laws are in operation limiting the emission of black smoke to two minutes in any period of thirty minutes.

Number of factory chimneys in district						16 (11 in use)
Number of observations taken	...	...	...	...	...	16
Written notices served	...	...	...	...	...	0
Legal proceedings	...	...	...	...	...	0

	<u>Black</u>		<u>Moderate</u>		<u>None</u>	
	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
Heaviest emission of smoke during any observation (minutes)	1½	½	14	15	14½	14½
Lightest emission of smoke during any observation (minutes)	-	-	4	3	26	27
Average amount of smoke emitted during observations (minutes)	0.18	0.06	8.50	8.36	21.32	21.57

It will be seen that the average emission of black smoke was considerably more than the previous year and this is largely due to heavier discharges from the local colliery chimney recorded during a special investigation of smoke and grit emission in the area. Although the average emission of black smoke has increased it should be stated that no statutory smoke nuisance was recorded during any of the observations taken.

Action was also taken in respect of excessive smoke and grit emission from colliery shunting locomotives and after extended representations to the National Coal Board a new diesel locomotive was provided for this purpose. This new motive power unit was very much appreciated by the residents in the vicinity of the colliery sidings who had previously suffered considerably from the effects of the smoke and grit emitted from coal fired locomotives during shunting operations.

Whilst our efforts have been concerned with industrial smoke, the problem of domestic smoke, which is responsible for much more atmospheric pollution than the public generally realise, still remains with us.

Although a considerable number of improved domestic firegrates have been fitted during the past few years, progress in the use of smokeless fuels has been limited. These grates are designed to burn such fuels more efficiently than coal and would considerably reduce the amount of atmospheric pollution from this source, which is of vital importance if we are to have a cleaner atmosphere.

Unfortunately, the present position is largely due to the increased price of solid smokeless fuel compared with coal and until the manufacturers can provide these fuels in increased quantities at a competitive price their voluntary use by the public will be limited, and particularly from the supply point of view, create some restriction on the establishment of smoke control areas.

Some of the provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956, relating to the formation of smoke control areas and miscellaneous provisions became operative on 31st December, 1956, but the main provisions relating to the prohibition of dark smoke, dust and grit, smoke from railway engines and other matters did not become operative until 1st June, 1958. It is hoped that this new legislation will provide the necessary incentive for industry, householders and all concerned to assist in the removal of all existing forms of atmospheric pollution and provide a cleaner and healthier atmosphere.







